

From: Renee Lauber <reneelauber@yahoo.com>
To: district18@cityofmadison.com; district3@cityofmadison.com; district13@cityofmadison.com; erics@cowsof.org; jolson@operationfreshstart.org; michael.heifetz@deancare.com; jabowser@facstaff.wisc.edu; mabasford@charter.net; timothy_gruber@yahoo.com; avandrzejews@wisc.edu
Cc: Marsha Rummel <district6@cityofmadison.com>; wsjcity@madison.com; bmurphy@cityofmadison.com
Sent: Sat, January 8, 2011 2:44:28 PM
Subject: Please add more details to the Public Access Agreement

Dear Madison Plan Commission,

I am writing to comment on the proposed public access agreement for the Edgewater Hotel and ask for many additional details in agreement. I could not find the proposal on the City's website thus my only information is from The State Journal article on 1/8/2011. I apologize in advance if the proposal already addresses some of my concerns.

The State Journal article states Hotel management could restrict access for "15 days annually, with no more than 10 on summer weekends."

My analysis shows that every Saturday from mid May through the end of August could be used for private events. The public could be left with access only on the colder, off-season Saturdays.

Analysis:

= Summer dates

| Event # | Date |
|---------|---|
| 1 | Saturday May 21, 2011 |
| 2 | Saturday May 28, 2011 |
| 3 | Saturday June 4, 2011 |
| 4 | Saturday June 11, 2011 |
| 5 | Saturday June 18, 2011 |
| 6 | Saturday June 25, 2011 (06/21/2011 is the official first day of summer) |
| 7 | Saturday July 2, 2011 |
| 8 | Saturday July 9, 2011 |
| 9 | Saturday July 16, 2011 |
| 10 | Saturday July 23, 2011 |
| 11 | Saturday July 30, 2011 |
| 12 | Saturday August 6, 2011 |
| 13 | Saturday August 13, 2011 |
| 14 | Saturday August 20, 2011 |
| 15 | Saturday August 27, 2011 |

15 days is excessive when all are allowed on weekends.

I also have questions related to agreement interpretation. Does a "day" mean access could be restricted for the entire 7:00 am to 11:00 pm period? Could access restrictions on those "days" include both outdoor terraces and the green space near Lake Mendota? Your intention on these points should be clarified.

Please do not leave any loop holes or questions open to interpretation about when the Hotel will be allowed to close areas. Instead of allowing a certain number of days – pick specific dates, times and locations. Or perhaps allow closure no more than two Saturdays of every month.

In addition, the agreement is also reported to allow “eight events staged by community groups, including five on summer weekends.” This also brings up numerous questions. Will these “events” be open to the public or is this additional restricted access time? Will these events be scheduled on prime Saturday evenings or be relegated to early morning hours or other less desirable times? Is there a minimum number of hours that constitute an “event”? Could the Edgewater Hotel, for example, schedule an “event” from 7:00 to 10:00 am on a Sunday morning and meet the requirement? What is a “community group”? When I type “community groups” into Google church organizations are predominately listed. Is that what was intended by “community group”? Who will decide which “community groups” are allowed access and which are denied? Will this process be done in open meetings?

Again please do not leave anything open to interpretation or any loop holes. One suggestion to solve the “community group” definition problem would be to have an existing elected public entity (like the City Council) certify “community groups” and then have a yearly lottery determine selection.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Renee Lauber
1252 Morrison Court
Madison, WI

P.S. The Plan Commission website did not list an email address for Nancy E. Fey could someone please make a copy of this email for her?