

Alcohol License Committee

My name is Mike Zirkel and I live at 1102 Gilson St. which is 7 houses from the Lakeside

Café. I am writing to voice my concern about permitting the Café to have amplified music. I have heard the music on occasion from the bar but it is only when the door is open that I am able to hear it. I live around the corner and up the hill from the café. I could not tolerate it if I heard music the majority of the times the bar has music, or each time the doors opened. The bar of the café is small and one acoustic/ unplugged band is very easy to hear. You may be as close as 8 feet from the band at the bar or as far away as 20 feet in the “wings” of the bar. The bar is very small and it is a good place to hear music in a more intimate setting as compared to a club with 500 other people. There is a much larger coffee shop attached where I have seen several bands that were good and loud and adequate space to enjoy the music. If amplified music were to be allowed I would ask that it occur in the larger back room which can then use the bar as a sound “Muffler” as it were. The door to the bar opens directly to the street and an additional door could be installed creating a foyer to keep the noise inside. I know what I hear is much less than what the across the street neighbor hears and just because it is not my problem does not mean I am not sympathetic or supportive.

I do believe the surrounding neighborhood is a great place to live and we are generally tolerant of people having fun and enjoying life. I don't mind hearing the whistle at the Goodman pool every hour and the collective sigh of the kids as they must exit the pool. I don't mind the parking hassles, restricted access to my street or loud persons associated with the Brat Fest, Rhythm and Booms, Susan Kromen Walk, The Girl Scout walk, the Mini Marathon the Ironman the World Wrestling Championship (which was obnoxiously loud) the music from the MS ride, JJO Band camp, County Fair and the dozen other events and helicopters that utilize our wonderful neighborhood. Most of these events are temporary and vary in noise level from year to year. Temporary interruptions to the general tranquility of the neighborhood can be tolerated.

I do believe that the Café is a wonderful asset to Lakeside St. and will with some modifications will continue to be a good neighbor. I would ask that only acoustic /unplugged music be played in the bar area. I would hope that amplified music if permitted would come with a contingency attached that would require that additional doors are placed to create a baffle chamber to help keep heat/AC and sound inside and to give the neighbors a break from the band they did not want to hear. I would also expect that the decibel levels permitted for music from the bar be respected and rigidly enforced.

Thank you for you time and efforts in consideration of my concerns

Mike Zirkel
1102 Gilson St.