

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 8:33 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fw: Request

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Dear Commissioners,

Here is a series of emails related to the Long Range Planning committee and the request to have the fireworks discussion moved to that group.

Thank you,

Beth Sluys

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Knepp, Eric <eknepp@cityofmadison.com>
To: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Cc: Ryan, CJ <CRyan@cityofmadison.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 09:48:17 AM CDT
Subject: RE: Request

I'm sorry for any confusion. I was reading your email incorrectly. BPC reviews fireworks requests. We are waiting to hear more from the Alder regarding her interest in this issue before setting a time for the review of 2024.

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 9:11 AM
To: Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Ryan, CJ <CRyan@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re: Request

Hi Eric and CJ,

I attended a BPC meeting during which Chandra suggested that the discussion around who participates in the fireworks decision making process and fireworks related issues be moved to the LRP, you concurred and moved future discussion to the LRP, or so it was said. It was after the Mallard meeting at WPCRC in March 2024.

So that is why I am looking at attending those conversations.

I know that the fireworks have been happening in the park for close to 40 years over time. So the conversations keep going.

I am relatively new to my involvement with the park and the various uses and related concerns.

Thanks,

Beth

On Thursday, September 12, 2024, 08:53:55 AM CDT, Knepp, Eric <eknepp@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Beth – I'm copying CJ here as she can best provide an update on timing as well. I know there is a plan in the works to have an update meeting this year to review 2024's season.

The BPC, not the LRP, will take up any request by the Mallards for fireworks after they are submitted. This is normally in late winter. We do not currently limit the size of fireworks as a part of the parks permitting. I would not recommend that approach as it becomes an area of regulation with no expertise behind it. If the issue is related to noise, frequency or intensity, it is better addressed by time and duration considerations.

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 7:04 PM
To: Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re: Request

Hi Eric,

Thanks for your help, the information below and for sending my request to CJ.

When will the LRP committee be discussing the fireworks and who will be included in the decision process.

I know that I would like to participate in that meeting.

Is there a limit to the size of mortars that the Mallards can fire off during a show? Some of the ones they used looked to be at least 12 inches in diameter.

Thanks

Beth

On Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 03:12:05 PM CDT, Knepp, Eric <eknepp@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Beth – I'm copying CJ here as she works on the management of this contract more directly than I do. We will get you a copy of the contract we have in place for the Stadium, which includes amendments over the years. We do not pay them to operate at the stadium, so unfortunately that is not a viable budget reduction strategy in these challenging times.

In short, noise/amplification/fireworks type things can be a challenge to understand as it relates to regulation. In short, generally park and recreation events/uses that occur in parks are not covered by the Section 24.08. The most express form of this is the exemption in 24.08(3)d for general park type things and for fireworks expressly under 24.08(3)g, which is covered by 34.5608. There is a regulation related to amplification in parks in 8.29. There are others as well, including regulations in select agreements and/or permit conditions. Section 34.5608 which is for non-recreational fireworks and requires a permit does include limitations of fireworks to be no later than 11PM unless authorized by the Chief.

All that regulatory language aside, the BPC is the arbiter of authorizing fireworks in parks and/or not doing so and/or adding conditions to such permission. I can assure you that this issue of timing has been flagged and will be a part of the continuing conversation on this matter in the future. I cannot tell you what will be decided, but I can promise it will be flagged as an item that has been expressed as a concern by residents.

Thanks,
Eric

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 8:09 AM
To: Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Request

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Eric and Amani,

I am writing to request a copy of the agreement document that Parks or the city has with the organization that runs the Mallard's stadium. I am interested in learning about the hours of operation, the terms of the agreement between the Mallards and the city regarding the operations of the stadium, and if there is a time limit for how late the noise can be impacted in the park. Whether a contract for service, a memorandum of understanding or whatever form of document that is part of the service contract with the Mallard's and with the Night Mare groups. What amount of money, if any, do we pay them to offer these services and how much of that goes to the fireworks. In these times of a tight budget, I know that you are considering all areas of operations. I would like to understand the agreement that is in place with the Mallards, Night Mares and the city as it relates to the lease on the facility, the operations of the public events. Including the fireworks displays.

I attended a Wild Warner meeting last night and the fireworks were a topic of conversation. I was in the park the night of the game that went late. As a result, the fireworks were issued quite late, as late as 10:30 pm. It is a gruesome thing for families living nearby. If the public has to abide by noise ordinances, why not the stadium?

As I read the noise ordinance, it does not indicate that some extreme noises will be allowed while others will not be.....especially after the curfew on noise that I believe is 9 pm.

I look forward to receiving the information I requested.

Thanks Eric,

Beth

From: TLNA President <president@tenneylapham.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:29 AM

Cc: Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Rummel, Marsha <district6@cityofmadison.com>; Tristan Straub <tristan@breesestevensfield.com>; <tlna-council@googlegroups.com> <tlna-council@googlegroups.com>

Subject: Re: In Opposition to Addition Breese Stevens Concerts

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Hello, Mark, and thanks for the email.

TLNA discussed this topic last month and, while it wasn't unanimous, the council still voted in favor of supporting Big Top's and Breese Stevens's proposal to potentially host a few more concerts. I have already submitted a letter to the Parks Commission and Superintendent. All of the issues you bring up were discussed at length during the meeting, and there was plenty of discussion along with feedback from neighbors such as yourself who opposed it.

Regretably, due to my own folly, October's agenda circulated internally last month, but did not get out to the neighborhood until just a day before the meeting. I apologize if you received that information late and were unable to attend as a result. It is always my intent to get the agenda out a week in advance every month.

I am CCing Tristan Straub, the General Manager of Breese Stevens and representative who pitched this proposal last month, so that he can have a chance to reach out to you to address these concerns.

Thanks again.

Ryan McCormick
1212 E Mifflin
President, TLNA
tenneylapham.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mark Richner** <markrichner@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 3:52 PM
Subject: In Opposition to Addition Breese Stevens Concerts
To: <eknepp@cityofmadison.com>, <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>, Marsha Rummel
<district6@cityofmadison.com>, <kineylikes@gmail.com>, <peter.r.beeson@gmail.com>

Dear Parks Superintendent, Board of Parks Commissioners, Alder Rummel, and TLNA,

I am writing in opposition to the request of Big Top Events for additional concerts at Breese Stevens Field in 2025.

Big Top Events continues to seek more concerts each year despite needing to, as Big Top's Tristan Straub put in an August email, "continue to look to see what further options are feasible to continue to work to keep the [neighborhood] from being overrun with hazardous traffic."

While I appreciate the measures Big Top and the city have taken this year to direct traffic to the parking garage and south of E Washington, more must be done.

There is an endless stream of fast-moving traffic driving in circles looking for parking spots that do not exist along N Brearly and E Dayton streets for hours preceding all concerts.

While I wrote in support of Big Top's request for more concerts last year, until the hazardous traffic problem is truly remedied, adding events would be unsafe.

Please oppose additional concerts at Breese Stevens Field.

Sincerely,
Mark Richner
122 N Brearly St

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This email composed using 100% organic composted drivel and blather

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Ryan McCormick
1212 E Mifflin
President, TLNA
tenneylapham.org