

Proposal: On behalf of the Madison Central Park Sessions Board I would like to request sound guidelines for the June 3rd Session's 40' x 80' tent that will house acoustic music from 11am to 7pm and subsequently a wonderful comedy show from 7:30 to 9:00pm. We will ensure minimal amplification keeping the comedic talk within the tent and satisfying the needs of the audience. Our plan for this Session was not finalized until a month after the February 14th Parks Commission meeting and should be scrutinized separately and on its own merit.

Esteemed Board of Park Commissioners and Parks Superintendent,

I am the event coordinator for the Central Park Sessions. I was in Mexico during the February 14th meeting that was to determine whether we could establish the Session in Central Park on Sunday, June 3rd. The times that we were seeking for the main stage music and event was 11 am until 9 pm. When the compromise was brought to the floor for the end of the amplified music at 8pm and acoustic (un-amplified) music until 9pm I recommended by phone that Oscar Mireles and Justice Castaneda (our spokespeople) accept that arrangement for the music. We have a Grammy-Award winning acoustic band from Veracruz, Mexico that could fill the last hour and keep the audience and vendors happy. The acoustic music that would fill in the 8 to 9 pm gap is of a higher volume than the comedy show that might be denied amplification in the tent.

Because our goal at the meeting was to establish the date and times in the Park we were satisfied with the results. We now had to figure out where to put the acoustic music and the comedians local and nationally - recognized. The comedians' leadership Jake Snell and Vanessa Tortolano met with me as soon as I arrived home on March 13th. Jake and Vanessa recommended that we use a large 40' x 80' tent with sides on the North side of The Great Lawn in the park. Comedians require quiet and prefer to work at night. We decided to have The Chicory Acoustic Music Stage in the tent from 11 am until 7 pm and let the main stage featured band Mokoomba (from Zimbabwe) wind down at 8 pm as agreed upon. The comedy show was now scheduled to begin at 7:30 pm with three Madison comedians and two national comedians Mary Mack and Tim Harmston. During this time frame the 1st Madison Comedy Week asked if their week could finish on our stage using our talent and add to the excitement. We would like the comedy show to employ the acoustic stage and sound system and keep a minimal level to ensure that the comedians are heard and that all sound stays within the tent. All of this planning happened a month after the February 14th meeting so I am not sure how any discussion about the use of the tent and sound levels could have taken place. We would like to suggest that the comedy show be allowed to proceed as planned in the tent with the promise that there would be no disturbance to the public at large. The comedy show was caught in the web of the main stage and should definitely have separate guidelines for acoustic music and the speech that will make us laugh.

When polled our representatives at the meeting (10) heard no reference or concern about amplified speech. Solely the main stage music was the focus of concern. Our acoustic stage sound person for the day, Lonya Nenyashev, thought that using his small system that would be in place already in the tent set to 80 db would satisfy the needs of our comedy audience and not create a problem beyond the tent walls.

I hope that we can resolve this situation so that all attendees and performers have a pleasurable experience.

Best wishes,

Bob Queen-- The Central Park Sessions Event Coordinator