

Regarding Grampa's Pizzeria request for outdoor seating:
Objections in anticipation of the July 19, 2018 neighborhood meeting at Wilmar Center.

With regard to the current request for outdoor patio seating for 30 at Grampa's, we feel that outdoor seating at Gib's Bar and Grampa's need to be viewed as a combined issue because the two businesses are physically located close to one another in a very small space, and because of family/management connections between the two. Nearby Lazy Jane's also provides context for a discussion of family management, location, and outdoor seating. All three businesses have wanted backyard outdoor seating and have also proposed alternative side yard seating. **Based on noise concerns, the neighbors have objected strongly to each proposal, and continue to do so.**

Prior to opening Gib's Bar and after listening to neighborhood concerns, owner Gil initially insisted that he would not ask for outdoor seating at Gib's Bar. Gib's received support from MNA and was granted subsequent approval to open the bar based in part on Gil's promise to stay indoors. Even without outdoor seating, Gib's bar already impacts the neighborhood with late-night noise and competition for parking. Gib's has since been allowed limited outdoor seating on the front porch, which we feel we have accommodated Gib's enough.

There is little difference in the anticipated noise level from either the side yard or the back yard, since it is such a small space. Gib's has argued in the past that noise concerns can be easily dealt with, but this flies in the face of other past neighborhood noise issues. When we were trying to deal with excessive noise from Taste Buds (previously located in the space now occupied by Lazy Jane's in the 1990's), Madison officials maintained that there was no way to judge or regulate noise levels. We believe that the City grappled with trying to formally establish noise level standards at about that time, and abandoned the effort. Perhaps things have changed, but Grampa's and the City need to show what sort of noise standard they envision using to prove their point.

Before Lazy Jane's opened, several neighbors and Ald. Judy Olsen sat down with owner Janie Caputo and expressed concerns about noise from the parking lot, and specifically asked Janie not to seek outdoor seating. Then, Janie promised she would not, and has since held to that promise.

The seating capacity of Grampa's is 46. If they are now allowed 30 outdoor seats, it is only a matter of time before Gib's and Lazy Jane's want to serve outside as well.

We have a **mounting noise problem in this area**: blasting train horns at 3AM; garbage dumpster pickup for 4 bars/cafe on this block as early as 5:45AM; sirens; and increase vehicle traffic.

Finally, when Grampa's opened it was clear that the space was just too small. We're happy to support what they said they wanted to do with Grampa's/Gib's in the first place, and enjoy the pizza and drinks, too, but we do not feel obligated to help them expand to the outdoors.

To be clear, we object to any outdoor seating for Grampa's Pizza and no additional outdoor seating for Gibs.

Respectful business owners make good neighbors.

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