

February 5, 2020

Dear Board of Health Members,

We have been Airbnb hosts since the early days and we have been Superhosts for 5 ¼ years. We comply with all current regulations and in fact I was instrumental in helping the City/State initially develop them. Our place was the first or second place inspected when the new regulations were announced. We remain available to you to answer questions about our extensive Airbnb hosting experience at any time. I also want to note that we're Alder Bidar's very next door neighbor.

Airbnb is a side hustle. It is a lot of work and the money is not great, but we definitely count on it as part of our annual income. And there are many reasons *beyond* the money that we're Airbnb hosts (and guests).

We're unhappy with the ADDITIONAL proposed \$100 license fee and also providing a floor plan, signed affidavit, etc. etc. but, of course, we will comply. I do support the most recent modifications to the ordinance:

- Incorporation State of Wisconsin 7 to 29 day stay regulations into our ordinance (consistency with state law and local regulations per the state law),
- To address privacy and information collecting concerns, we will remove the following provisions about reporting:
 - Remove requirement to Identify all guests, change it to only the guest making the reservation. Change to this: *Require the true name of the party making the reservation, and their mailing address, telephone number, or email (any one of the three),*
 - Removing requirement to collect and report any guest vehicle information.

* prohibit renting to multiple unassociated parties at the same time, unless the operator occupies the residence at the time of rental (can't use 30 days absence exemption).

What I really object to is providing names and information on a quarterly basis. Please remember this is not our full time job and another layer of reporting drives me nearly mad. I do present the Health Inspector with these lists during my annual inspection. If I do have to submit this information to the City, I most certainly will omit last names. I feel that submitting these names to the City so they have them on file is a violation of privacy.

For us, we're owner/occupants, so we don't have an issue ourselves with owner occupancy. I do think there is a balance that can be struck to promote ownership of an Airbnb but allow for some flexibility, too, especially in light of some the HORRIBLE landlords there are in town and how they get away with terrible behavior unchecked. I have been involved in city politics for many years, have managed a historic apartment building downtown for many years and now manage an historic condo association for 11 years (the Baskerville Condos), so I do know horrible landlords.

You need to know that if people are abiding by the City rules and regulations there is NOT a lot of money to be made as it is in this enterprise. I would imagine there has to be a way to prevent the bad actors from operating—as in take away the license they already have?

This is an excellent income generator for the City. We are excellent ambassadors for the City of Madison. We are happy to be in discussion with you on these regulations if we could do it prior to these official meetings.

Thank you for your time.

Warmly,

Samantha Crownover
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