

BEGIN EMAIL STRING

From: Kester, Dolores

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 5:23 PM

To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Abbas, Syed <district12@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Agenda items #53972-73 Mallards request to increase fireworks events, not communicate directly with neighborhoods, and show movies

Greetings Mr Knepp and members of the Parks Commission:

I have lived approximately a mile from Warner Park for many years and have observed all the baseball teams that have played at the stadium in Warner Park. I offer the following comments on Mallards' request to increase the number of their fireworks events this summer and not to communicate directly with neighborhoods.

First, in their tenure at Warner Park the Mallards team has been by far the noisiest and least respectful of the park environment of all the ball teams that have played there:

- For years their sound system bled excessive amounts of sound into surrounding neighborhoods which could hear every play called, every crowd cheer, and every musical note through their loudspeakers, even with all windows closed, for several miles away. Finally a few years ago they invested in a better sound system and this greatly improved.**
- For a while they actually had a "six gun salute" of cannons before each game, causing many neighbors (including myself) to dread Mallards games because it sounded like a war zone in our living rooms.**
- They have on occasion launched their fireworks from the green areas of the park damaging trees and causing chemical fallout inappropriately. Recently the fireworks have been launched from the tennis courts which presumably limits the fallout.**
- They held an excessive number of fireworks events after games. One year I counted 43 fireworks events. Finally the Parks Commission imposed stricter limits and the**

compromise number in recent years has been four fireworks events per season.

I am very grateful to this Parks Commission for keeping a close eye on what the Mallards do and for imposing stricter standards and greater accountability.

Please do not approve an increase in this year's fireworks events. This year the Mallards have requested SIX fireworks events. This is too many fireworks events given the entire history of these events including the compromise at 4 events per season in recent years. There is no reason to have this increase.

Second, Mallards have stated they will let Northside Planning Council (NPC) know about their plans, implying that this will inform neighborhoods. As Mallards have been informed many times, NPC does not represent neighborhoods.

Please require Mallards to do their due diligence and communicate directly with Northside neighborhoods about what they are planning to do this year.

Finally, I note that Mallards are requesting to show movies similar to a drive in theatre this year. I have no problem with that as long as the noise is held at a reasonable level, and they do not have an excessive amount of bright lights. The Sandhill cranes need their beauty rest as much as the surrounding neighborhoods do.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Dolores Kester

1818 Winchester St

Aldermanic District 12

From: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 9:39 AM

To: Kester, Dolores <dakester@sbcglobal.net>

Cc: Abbas, Syed <district12@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: RE: Agenda items #53972-73 Mallards request to increase fireworks events, not communicate directly with neighborhoods, and show movies

Good morning Dolores,

To clarify, this regards items 20 & 21, #59272 & 59273 correct?

Thank you,

Nicole Miller
City of Madison Parks Division

From: Kester, Dolores
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 11:19 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: RE: Agenda items #53972-73 Mallards request to increase fireworks events, not communicate directly with neighborhoods, and show movies

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**Hi Nicole and thanks for your note.
Yes, my comments are directed toward Agenda Items 20-21 as you
have summarized in your email.
Thanks so much,
Dolores**

END EMAIL STRING

From: Kester, Dolores
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: FW: Agenda Items #20 and 21, #53972-73 : Wild Warner comments/suggestions re: Mallards 2020

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To the Parks Commission:

**Thank you for hearing neighbor concerns about the Mallards' plans
for its 2020 season.**

Wild Warner offers the following comments and suggestions.

- 1. Regarding the noise of Mallards and other events in the park, Parks should set Maximum Decibels Permitted and Maximum 5 Minute Average Decibels, as measured at home plate, to decibel levels that will help regulate and reduce noise impact on surrounding neighborhoods, birds and wildlife.**
- 2. WW appreciates that any fireworks or other entertainment events, such as movies, are to be carried out totally within the Mallards stadium, not outside in the park which helps avoid impact on birds and wildlife, as well as preventing chemical and other debris from degrading the natural areas of the park.**

3. **WW prefers reduced lighting, not bright displays, to avoid interference with the birds and other non-human inhabitants in the park and surrounding areas. Please also take into consideration the disruption to surrounding neighborhoods. The lights on at night at the Mallard Stadium are piercing for every single person who tries to sleep in one of the apartments that faces Trailsway. (One WW member reports that the light in her daughter's bedroom is so piercing that it prevents her from sleeping, regardless of drawn shades.)**
4. **No need to increase number of actual fireworks events from 4 to 6, but no problem if supplemented by other kinds of events such as movies**
5. **A final suggestion: If Mallards have the funds to do 2 more fireworks displays, they should instead have movies or other entertainment events this year and set the fireworks money aside for future purchase of a laser lights display, which can accomplish a similarly entertaining display without pollution or noise. In cities that have switched to such displays, people report enjoying it as much as fireworks and appreciating the no-pollution alternative. Using a laser lights display would make the Mallards not just a trend setter but also create much better relationships with all neighbors, including birds, wildlife, and humans.**

Thank you for your time and attention.

Submitted by the Board of Directors of Wild Warner