

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: Amy Sparks <amy@sapcc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:52 AM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Sound variance for the Zombie Crawl

Mark:

I wanted to let you know that the St. Anthony Park Community Council recommends that the variance be granted for the Zombie Pub Crawl with the conditions that sound monitoring happen every hour so that the decibel range is kept within the required limits and that all amplification of music stop promptly at 10PM. The organizers told us that both would happen. We were also told that the organizers would share their contact info with us so that neighbors could contact them the night of the event.

If you would like me to send a real letter about this, let me know.

Thanks for the information you provided.

Amy

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Amy Sparks, Executive Director
St. Anthony Park Community Council, District 12
890 Cromwell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114
651-649-3992 | amy@sapcc.org | www.sapcc.org

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: molddoctor@minnesota-mold-doctor.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:12 PM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Zombie Productions, Noise variance hearing

I am unable to attend tomorrow's hearing because of a funeral.

However I am extremely concerned at the idea of being subjected to the sort of noise typically produced by this type of horror film. I live within hearing distance of the Stadium and the idea of being subjected to noises their films produce, possibly all day until 10:00 p.m., appals me.

Are they willing to provide alternative accommodations for me and others in my neighborhood who find constant noise and loud volumes extremely distressing? If they are not, what will the City do to protect those of us who live close to the Stadium? Telling us to keep our windows closed is not adequate. It certainly does not block out the sounds from the back up beepers at BNSF's railroad yard.

Thank you.

Stephanie Digby
1682 Taylor Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104
Telephone: 651 642 1288

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: Holzman <holzman@visi.com>
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 10:32 PM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Cc: Stark, Russ (CI-StPaul); 'Amy Sparks'; 'Alice Hausman'
Subject: urge denial of noise variance for Midway Stadium concert

Hello, Mr. Kaisersatt,

I understand Midway Stadium has requested a noise variance for a rock concert to take place later this fall.

I wish to express my disappointment in that development, which amounts to a broken promise made to me personally by the Saints after Memorial Day 2011, at which time an entire weekend of blasted bass noise rendered our treasured holiday weekend totally miserable. The Saints at that time said they'd learned from the annoyance of neighbors and would not attempt such an atrocity again. I thanked them for their promise but have lost all interest in the Saints in the wake of that experience.

I urge you to deny the variance. This is a RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD, of which there are many within easy earshot of Midway Stadium. As the Saints manager I spoke with admitted, noise is very difficult to monitor, much less control. Nor can anyone tell a concert promoter, sorry, it's 10 p.m., time to stop the noise – and they don't. Because it's so hard to control, we should hold noise to a high standard of utility. I cringe at the noise of construction, but I know it helps keep jobs in the neighborhood. The same most certainly cannot be said of rock concerts. Other than a few easy bucks from selling the permit, I can't see what possible good can come of encouraging more obnoxious, overwrought electronic blasting and the antisocial behaviors that tend to go with it.

Moreover, as I write to you this evening, a rock concert is blasting from the Fairgrounds, which will be followed (as all rock concerts seem to be, as well as more and more sports events) by window-rattling, sleep-destroying fireworks. We'll soon be treated to audio blasts from the U's football stadium as their season begins. We get, in short, way more than our fair share of noise in St. Anthony Park, Como, Hamline Midway, and other nearby neighborhoods – and that's not even counting the trucks and trains. It's enough to make me think more and more longingly of taking my homeowning, taxpaying, volunteering, childrearing stability to some quiet, far-flung suburb.

Please deny the Midway Stadium noise variance requested for Oct. 13, and any similar ones that would add to the level of noise around here anytime soon.

Thank you,

Anne Holzman
2240 Scudder St.
St. Paul 55108

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: S. Mack <macksss@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 8:56 PM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Sound level variance issue - Midway Stadium, October 13

Hello,

I have heard that Zombie Productions LLC, has applied for a sound level variance for live music at Midway Stadium on October 13, 2012 from 2:00 p.m to 10:00 p.m. I understand that the public hearing is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on September 19, 2012 in the City Council Chambers, but I will be unable to attend that meeting. I would like the following comments to be passed along to those who will make the decision to grant or not grant the variance:

My name is Sara Mack. I am a working mother with very little time on my hands, but this issue is very important to me, so I am going to take some precious time to write these comments. If you have any follow up questions, I can be reached at macksss@gmail.com.

My son was born on May 24th, 2012. The following weekend was Memorial Day Weekend. As I was about to learn, it was the weekend of XFest and KQRS Rock Stock at Midway Stadium, which is less than a mile due north of our home on Hewitt Avenue.

My son and I came home from the hospital and he had peaceful nights at home on Thursday and Friday. Then, Saturday at 1 p.m., the music started. Our windows shook. We wanted to have the windows open to get some fresh air and closed them to try to help with the sound. We could hear every single word of every single song sung that day. There were lots of swear words. We had visitors come from out of town. We took our lovely new baby outside to walk on the sidewalk. We had to raise our voices to hear each other over the sound of the music. We heard "fuuuuuuuck youuuuuuuuu" over and over that day, in many different melodies. I am sorry if including the phrase "fuck you" has offended anyone. But please imagine having relatives and friends visit you to meet your new baby and having them hear that, and "shit" and "bitch" both inside and outside of the house. This was all day long, late into the night, and then it started up again the following day, once again late into the night. There was no way to escape it. With each set of visitors who came to meet the baby we tried to explain that, no, really, Saint Paul is a good place, it's not always like this, it's not this terrible. We called the police non-emergency line six times and each time were told that nothing could be done. Later we heard that a noise variance was granted, but that the police didn't actually have the equipment to tell if the allowable limit was exceeded or not.

I was furious that people who have been entrusted with helping to make Saint Paul a good place to live for its residents had let this happen. I was exhausted after giving birth and the first few days of caring for baby, but there was no way to nap with that horrible noise. I went to the basement to try to escape it and get some rest, but the windows were shaking down there, too. I just wanted to be in my home and enjoy my new baby. My home was shaking from the noise. There was no peace and no way to escape it. I felt like I was in a hostage situation, with the negotiators playing ultra loud heavy metal as a way to break the hostage takers.

No one should have to go through this. People who live in Saint Paul neighborhoods should never have to have this happen. In my opinion, it is very simple: THERE IS NO VALID REASON WHY A SOUND LEVEL VARIANCE SHOULD BE ALLOWED FOR ANY GROUP AT ANY TIME. PERIOD.

I don't care if Saint Paul loses revenue dollars because concerts decide to go elsewhere. The sound level that is currently allowed now is fine, and if it's not enough for a group they should go elsewhere; if they want to have loud music they should go somewhere where they have the space they need to make the noise they want to make. IT SHOULD NOT BE IN A CITY NEIGHBORHOOD.

I hope that whoever is in charge of making this decision takes into account these comments and imagines themselves in a similar situation. Would you want to live for two days straight with your windows shaking, listening to swear words in lyrics of heavy metal songs, unable to talk outside in your own front yard without yelling to be heard? Would you want your baby's first weekend of life marked in your memory as a horrible experience? Please put the lives of Saint Paul residents ahead of the wishes of commercial parties looking to make money off of concerts.

Thank you for reading this.

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: molddoctor@minnesota-mold-doctor.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 3:14 PM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Sound Variance for Zombie Productions

I protest most strongly. It is bad enough having my house shaken with the fireworks at the stadium. Eight hours of noise would be intolerable. This is my home. Where am I supposed to go to escape the noise?

This would be adding insult to injury. Saint Paul does not seem to consider noise problems from the Stadium of concern and I have to beg for a change of priorities.

Stephanie Digby, Ph.D.
1682 Taylor Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104
Telephone: 651 642 1288

Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)

From: Thea Johansen <theajohansen@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 5:53 PM
To: Kaisersatt, Mark (CI-StPaul)
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: Oct. 16 Midway Stadium

Mr. Kaiser:

I'm writing to comment on the issue of sound level variance requested by Zombie Productions on Oct. 16. I'll be unable to attend the City Council meeting dealing with this issue.

I'm a Hamline Midway resident since 1994. We have experienced some disrupting incidents with noise levels from events at both Midway Stadium, Hamline, and the State Fair.

Mostly though, levels are tolerable. But even within sound level limits, music and sound from stadiums can be very disrupting depending on wind direction and atmospheric conditions. Even during the day and early evening, I believe residents have a right to enjoy being in their backyards or having windows open without being assaulted by noise from outdoor venues. Some residents work at night and may need to sleep during daytime or early evening hours.

Sound level ceilings for events are in place, I assume, for neighbors surrounding stadiums and outdoor venues. I see no reason that these levels should have variances, unless there is compelling public interest to the neighborhood.

I ask that you deny request for variance to Zombie Productions.

Thank you,

Thea Johansen
1661 Englewood Ave.
St. Paul, MN