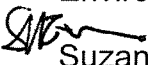




Date: November 28, 2007
To: Environmental Committee
From:  Suzanne Frick, Director of Planning and Building
Subject: Temporary Entertainment Permits – Status Report

On July 31, 2007 the Environmental Committee considered the issue of allowing live entertainment with or without amplification, on a temporary basis for accessory use to small venues, such as art galleries. Staff had the following recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. For businesses interested in only occasionally providing entertainment such as live musical performances, one possible approach would be to authorize date-specific Entertainment Permits for a limited number of occurrences, such as no more than six per year. This could be useful for establishments such as art galleries providing live music only at special showings in order to minimize potential noise conflicts with surrounding land uses. Approval of these limited Entertainment Permits for businesses could be done on an over-the-counter basis at the Development Services Center on the 4th floor of City Hall. Violation of the terms of these limited Entertainment Permits could be Permit revocation and prohibition of any future Permit approvals similar to an annual entertainment permit.

Financial Management has expressed concern that exempting incidental music performances or providing an administrative over-the-counter permit could leave room for abuse of current regulations, and could present problems for the neighborhoods in relation to noise, parking, and overcrowding of the establishment. Their preference would be for this type of permit to be processed in the current manner as an Entertainment Permit.

After discussion on July 31st, the Environmental Committee requested that this item stay in Committee for further research and recommendations. Pursuant to this direction, staff has researched other cities' policies and procedures on this matter. To resolve this matter and return to the Environmental Committee with recommended options, staff is forming an advisory group with representatives from the Police Department, Financial Management, Health and Human Services, and Public Works. This advisory committee will continue to discuss the issue and put forth recommended options for the Environmental Committee to consider.

SF/AR