

December 10, 2015

Hi Mike Boyer,

In the recent past, King Neighborhood Association (KNA) has had you as a guest speaker at our October monthly meeting to comment on noisy bars and patios most noticeable Donny Vegas. You and KNA Board of Directors discussed at the meeting how the neighbors near Donny Vegas at 1203 NE Alberta St Portland, OR 97211 have complained over a number of years about noise, litter, smoke and noise on the patio especially after 2:30 pm. The co-owners currently are Benjamin Artaiz and Jeremy Wilson. The establishment has a history of poor management. I know the neighbors have spoken to the last two owners before Artaiz and Wilson. Neighbors have discussed bar noise and poor management of clientele with the King Neighborhood Association in the past a number of times.

I am cc Debbie Frank, neighbor working on this issue. She and I have talked about KNA reaching out to you.

This noise issue seems to almost get resolved and then when spring arrives, the bar and patio open up and the noise is back. Currently, the problem seems to be that the noise issue cannot stay resolved once it is solved. These reoccurring events make the issue frustrating and completely disheartening for neighbors who want livable housing in the King neighborhood area. Working people who need sleep and relaxation live here legitimately and they do not need to move to accommodate others.

The neighbors always start with each new owner just talking about livability. I have met these neighbors and find them well-spoken and well-mannered people. I know Crime Prevention Specialist, Celeste Carey also has weighed in on this process earlier on with little success with any of the owners.

In this current go around, some neighbors have met with you, Mike Boyer to discuss their concerns. The neighbors had Paul van Orden, Noise Control Officer at the city of Portland come and meter Donny Vegas noise level. The result was that the noise was too high. Residents have also met with OLCC officials and asked for help.

The neighbors have been told they need to comment on the comprehensive plan and submit further comments on the Mixed Use Zones Project. KNA believes the neighbors have met this requirement and have commented. KNA invited you, Mike Boyer to the October monthly meeting to speak and people at the meeting voiced concern about Benjamin Artaiz's and Jeremy Wilson's lying. These owners had told neighbors they would close their patio earlier and instead told Mike Boyer they wanted late night openings.

To say the least, neighbors are tired of the inability of the city to support them. They are tired of the owners being unwilling to validate legitimate claims if it interferes with their bar operation.

It seems to KNA, that we must have rules on the books already to solve problems concerning noise. Certainly a few rules are broad enough to meet a neighborhood's needs for quiet. What we may need is enforcement, not more detailed rules.

Please investigate Donny Vegas and give this establishment an unfavorable recommendation.

Sincerely,

Nick La Rue