

Bruno, Stacey

To: Crosthwaite, Joyce
Subject: RE: Special meeting re: loudspeakers on Wagon Wheel fields

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, June 24, 2016 11:17 PM +0200
To: "Feron, Dan" <DANF@smwd.com>, "Leach, Jim" <jiml@smwd.com>
CC: [REDACTED]
Subject: Special meeting re: loudspeakers on Wagon Wheel fields

Dear Mr. Feron:

My neighbors and I are dismayed to learn that the water district is considering granting the Little League a supposedly one-time exception to the prohibition of loudspeaker use on the Wagon Wheel sports fields.

As you know, as the Pinnacle district delegate I have been forced to contact the water district innumerable times over more than a decade because the leagues simply refuse to abide by the conditions of their lease. These conditions were put in place to protect homeowners' right to peacefully enjoy their homes and their yards in a quiet residential area, but the leagues continually flout the rules, sometimes feigning ignorance but mostly just behaving like bullies.

In addition to using prohibited lights and loudspeakers on the fields, they have built extensive "improvements" to the property without filing for the legally-required permits and thus depriving us of the chance to weigh in. They have built lighted scoreboards and covered the fences in signage, again in direct violation of the terms of their lease. They have ignored instructions from the sheriff to stop using an extremely noisy, beeping cherrypicker at 1 AM. To add insult to injury, they have called me a liar time and again when I complained about their use of loudspeakers, until I started producing video.

They have tried to paint this as a situation where I am the only neighbor bothered by these issues, but that couldn't be farther from the truth. I am just the neighborhood's representative. In the chronology submitted by the leagues, an item for April 22-May 22 2015 states, "TCLL notifies all property owners; email chain concludes that one property owner is opposed." This is patently false. I challenge the leagues to produce this email chain, because I have yet to find a neighbor who received any such email, and they certainly would not have said they were unopposed. Where would they have even obtained an email list of all the Pinnacle residents? CZ Master won't even give me one. If they sent out any emails at all, they were certainly not sent to everyone but probably to a select list of league-affiliated residents.

What is called for here is not a softening of the rules, which only rewards and encourages this disrespectful bad behavior, but a clear, absolute enforcement of them, with the threat of losing the lease if the leagues don't abide by them.

Once again, the leagues have engineered a self-serving "crisis" by volunteering to host a tournament that their organization requires to use loudspeakers. We went through all of this last year; why are you rewarding them for doing it again? They say they want to use loudspeakers "just this once, " when they've hired an engineer to perform an acoustic survey on those dates, whose only purpose can be to be used as ammunition to get permission for more loudspeaker use.

Sure, they'll use the engineer's findings to say, "If we point the speakers this way and only use them at half volume, the neighbors won't be bothered." But they have a more than decade-long history of consistently ignoring their neighbors' rights and their own legal obligations. Why on earth would anyone believe that they'd start being scrupulous about noise levels once they got their way?

Why is the district playing into the leagues' hands by granting them yet another crack at breaking the rules, transparently scheduled on extremely short notice, while many residents are gone, at an hour that virtually guarantees that homeowners will be unable to attend and voice their opposition? At the very least, it gives the appearance of undue influence, perhaps on the part of someone in the district, on behalf of the leagues.

By giving them this supposedly one-time exception, the district would be letting the Trojan Horse in the gate.

The leagues have acted in bad faith for more than a decade. Please don't reward them by letting them take away our quiet summer days and evenings.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

