

**From:** Robert Daniels

**Sent:** Sunday, July 02, 2017 10:15 AM

**To:** Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>; Edward Lavalley <ELavalley@Venicegov.com>

**Cc:** Dave Persson <dpersson@swflgovlaw.com>; John Holic <JHolic@Venicegov.com>; Robert Daniels <RDaniels@Venicegov.com>; Roger Clark <RClark@Venicegov.com>; Jeff Shrum <JShrum@Venicegov.com>; Cafe Venice Kay Ann Kropac <kay@cafeveniceontheisland.com>; Sandy's Designer Clothing <sandysdesignerclothing@gmail.com>; Steve Harner <SHarner@crownsnest-venice.com>; Venice MainStreet, Inc. <erin@venicemainstreet.com>; Judy Gamel <JGamel@Venicegov.com>; Heather Taylor <HTaylor@Venicegov.com>; Greg Giles <ggiles@venicegondolier.com>; Bob Mudge <bmudge@venicegondolier.com>; Earle Kimel <earle.kimel@heraldtribune.com>; Economic Development Advisory Board <EconomicDevelopmentAdvisoryBoard@venicegov.com>; Betty Ehik <celebcorner@verizon.net>

**Subject:** July 10,2017 Council Meeting Agenda ....Special Events

Place under New Business ;

Staff review and council discussion on the reported issues with two recent events in Centennial Park. Seafood Festival and Beer Fest.

Staffs summary report.

Reported Issues;

- 1) Main Street businesses voiced concern about loosing \$500.
  - 2) Main Street made \$13,000 while local businesses lost \$\$\$
  - 3 ) Event contractor agreement and profit sharing with city was refused
  - 4) the use of hard liquor vs previous beer and wine use.....lots of citizen complaints
  - 5) event duplication of selling clothing that competes with our city shops.
- Booth ran by an non Venice shop. Many thought this was agreed not be allowed?

Action Motion; TBD

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**From:** Robert Daniels  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2017 11:22 AM  
**To:** Heather Taylor <[HTaylor@Venicegov.com](mailto:HTaylor@Venicegov.com)>; Lori Stelzer <[LStelzer@Venicegov.com](mailto:LStelzer@Venicegov.com)>  
**Cc:** Edward Lavallee <[ELavallee@Venicegov.com](mailto:ELavallee@Venicegov.com)>; Economic Development Advisory Board <[EconomicDevelopmentAdvisoryBoard@venicegov.com](mailto:EconomicDevelopmentAdvisoryBoard@venicegov.com)>; John Holic <[JHolic@Venicegov.com](mailto:JHolic@Venicegov.com)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: My Thoughts On The Festival Concerns That Were Noted Yesterday

Please attached to our next council Meeting agenda item

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**From:** "Sandy's Designer Clothing" <[sandysdesignerclothing@gmail.com](mailto:sandysdesignerclothing@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Jun 14, 2017 at 11:11 AM -0400  
**Subject:** Re: My Thoughts On The Festival Concerns That Were Noted Yesterday  
**To:** "Robert Daniels" <[RDaniels@Venicegov.com](mailto:RDaniels@Venicegov.com)>, "John Holic" <[JHolic@Venicegov.com](mailto:JHolic@Venicegov.com)>  
**Cc:** "merchant 16 16" <[kay@cafeveniceontheisland.com](mailto:kay@cafeveniceontheisland.com)>

Hi Bob and John,

Recently I went up to St Armands and spoke with a few of the shop owners there about their feeling on their Sea Food Festival, which took place a few weeks after the one in Venice. None on the people I talked with were happy about the promotion and it did not help their business. They said the only local, St Armand's restaurant involved was Daquiri Deck.

They do not want another one there.

If the people of Venice want a Sea Food Festival, why can't it be at the airport. There it will not effect our parking.

Just my 2 cents.

Sandy

On Jun 14, 2017, at 10:39 AM, Robert Daniels <[RDaniels@Venicegov.com](mailto:RDaniels@Venicegov.com)> wrote:

Fyi

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**From:** "John Holic" <[JHolic@Venicegov.com](mailto:JHolic@Venicegov.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Jun 14, 2017 at 10:11 AM -0400  
**Subject:** RE: My Thoughts On The Festival Concerns That Were Noted Yesterday  
**To:** "Francesco Abbruzzino - BCI" <[fabbruzzino@yahoo.com](mailto:fabbruzzino@yahoo.com)>, "City Council" <[CityCouncil@Venicegov.com](mailto:CityCouncil@Venicegov.com)>

Dear Mr. Abbruzzino,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,  
John Holic  
Mayor, City of Venice

**From:** Francesco Abbruzzino - BCI [mailto:[fabbruzzino@yahoo.com](mailto:fabbruzzino@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2017 10:01 AM  
**To:** City Council <[CityCouncil@Venicegov.com](mailto:CityCouncil@Venicegov.com)>  
**Subject:** My Thoughts On The Festival Concerns That Were Noted Yesterday

I wanted to note that I went out to the Seafood Festival, for a live interview with Erin.

While there, I walked up and down the row of vendors about four times. I ended up shooting my live interview with Erin, right in front of Café Venice, which was mentioned yesterday during the council's conversation. During that interview and the four times I walked by, I can honestly state that their booth was not busy. Other vendor booths were busy, in regards to the local food vendors.

I talked to a couple of the company owners that were a part of this festival, one as early as this morning. I have not come across one local vendor yet that was not happy with the festival or felt that they did not get a good return on their investment. The 25% going back to Mainstreet and the promoter of the festival is a subject of heartburn, but even with that they were very happy with the results.

I am not sure one can say it was the festival that brought about a \$500 loss for Café Venice. It could have been a number of variables such as local perception of the food there, perhaps the offerings at the table, their pricing, ect.....

It seems like over the last two meetings there have been some negativity thrown Mainstreets way by some of you. I think someone said that Mainstreet made 13K at the event, while businesses lost money. Keep in mind that Mainstreet puts a huge chunk of that money back into marketing and promoting the business and it does not go into their bank account or Erin's pocket. So, I am not sure the fact that Mainstreet made 13k is that big of a deal.

Regarding the promoter, like I said above the vendors did not seem too happy with the 25% fee. I believe Holic was concerned, not knowing how much the promoter made at this event. I would say find out what Mainstreets percentage was, which grossed them 13k and then perform some basic math to find out what the promoter was paid. I am thinking it was probably on the high side and maybe instead of re-evaluating having this event or the

Brew Bash there, the city could ask Mainstreet to find another promoter. I am not even sure that this is really any of the city's business. The city is there to approve the event, not micro manage how much the vendor fees will be.....

Regarding the hard liquor. I don't drink, outside of my wine with past on Sunday nights. To me it is no different than walking across the street to any of the brick and mortar restaurants and getting some hard liquor. As long as they had the permits for it and everything was on the up and up, let it go.

I do believe the request should be reviewed annually, versus the current process that is in place.

Just some thoughts from the guy that one of you fine elected officials called a bit of mentally and opined that it may be from my service in the military..... Oh, did I mention it was on a public server, via email to another resident, and in a conversation that I was not even a part of.....? Well that one is for another day.

Frankie Abbruzzino, City of Venice resident

*Sincerely*

*Francesco Saverio Abbruzzino*

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