

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## Minutes - Final

Thursday, February 28, 2013

1:30 PM

City Hall, Ground Floor, Room 16

## Public Safety Committee

*Commissioner Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, Chair  
Commissioner Lauren Poe, Member  
Commissioner Todd Chase, Member*

*Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

[120884.](#) Approval of January 8, 2013 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes (B)

RECOMMENDATION            *The Public Safety Committee approve the minutes of the January 8, 2013 meeting as submitted.*

**DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**

[120347.](#) Special Event Permits for Bars (B)

**This is a referral to address the interest of businesses to provide for the temporary outdoor sales and consumption of alcoholic beverages beyond University of Florida Football Home Games.**

RECOMMENDATION            *The Committee hear a presentation from staff, discuss the issue and provide direction as appropriate.*

The Committee heard a presentation from Lawrence Calderon, Lead Planner with the City's Planning and Development Services Department, outlining options for allowing special event permits for bars and to protect neighborhoods in surrounding areas of the requesting establishments. Currently special permits are only allowed in the University Context Area described in a memorandum prepared by Mr. Calderon and only permitted on University of Florida Football Home Games.

A consensus of Committee members, City Staff (to include GPD), and members of GDOT and Downtown business who were present, was supportive of Option 3 to expand permits Citywide and allow up to 4 Special Event Permits per year providing extension of premises for alcohol above and beyond UF Football Home Games.

The motion was made and the Committee voted 3-0 to move this item back to the City Commission to recommend that the City Commission direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance. The Committee specified in their recommendation that the Plan Board Petition and first reading of the ordinance should occur at the same meeting.

[110683.](#) Alcohol Sales and Consumption Outdoors Downtown (NB)

**This is a referral to address increasing interest in holding outdoor events in the downtown area that allow the sale and consumption of alcohol on**

**City property.**RECOMMENDATION

*The Public Safety Committee discuss the issue of alcohol sales and consumption outdoors downtown and provide direction as appropriate.*

Since the development of the United Way's "United Downtown" events and the recent approval of the Santa Fe College Arts Festival to sell alcohol at their events Downtown, there is an interest by GDOT and others to hold special events Downtown that allow the sale and consumption of alcohol on City property. The City is looking for ways to simplify this process so new events don't require changes to City ordinance but to provide for an appropriate level of control over the number of events and to assure they are well managed. It may be helpful if the City creates an annual process for taking applications to hold events on Lot 10, so everybody knows the approved events well ahead of time for impact on downtown businesses and the need for City support services.

Tony Weinbender, Fest Musical Festival organizer, has requested use of City Lot 10 for the event in October each year.

The Committee approved 3-0 to recommend that the City Commission allow use of Lot 10 as an outdoor venue allowing the sale and consumption of alcohol for Fest. The Fest organizers plan to sell beer only.

The broader referral on this issue will in remain in Committee for future discussion. City staff will meet with GDOT and stakeholders work on a proposal to the Committee.

[110382.](#)**Outdoor Concerts (B)**

The City is reviewing the possibility and impact of allowing additional special events on private and public property that could include outdoor concerts where alcohol could be sold and consumed.

RECOMMENDATION

*The Public Safety Committee hear from staff and consider further inquiries and research should be conducted to address noise generated by outdoor musical events.*

The Committee is researching the possibility of allowing outdoor concerts, particularly in the Downtown area, while considering the noise levels in adjoining neighborhoods.

A motion by the Committee was approved 3 – 0 to recommend that the City Commission direct the City Manager to: 1) procure the services of a professional consultant to review the City's noise ordinance and recommend changes to address the issue of noise generated by bass and outdoor concerts in general; 2) authorize the purchase of necessary equipment to measure bass and levels of the music/noise; and 3) approve the training of police officers to measure the noise levels. GPD staff will research the estimated cost of procuring a consultant for inclusion in the fiscal note of the agenda item.

**MEMBER COMMENT**

Commissioner Hinson-Rawls has a conflict with the next scheduled meeting,

rescheduled for April 9. Staff will work on finding another date for the meeting.

### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

Larry Hamilton from the Pleasant Street neighborhood is concerned that noise meters will not work when measuring the bass levels of outdoor concerts. He feels that aggressive enforcement would be the best course of action.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The tentative date for the next meeting is April 9, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.