

Craig, Sondra

From: Elsen, Nikki
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 12:47 PM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: FW: No exclusive private venues in a public facility

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City Clerk
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From: c <cvanmaren@protonmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2021 8:08 AM
To: ZZ Council Members <ZZCouncilMembers@cityoflacrosse.org>; Reynolds, Mitch <reynoldsm@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: No exclusive private venues in a public facility

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Please do not allow public property to be turned into a profit making venture for a private company. The fish hatchery plan has many good points, but still seems to be selling off our public resource to a private company. Now it appears, from today's Tribune story, the deal is done and the council may not even have anything to say about it. This does not follow statements made by council members when approving the zoning change just a week or so ago. My understanding was that uses for this site would be reconsidered.

Does the council need to approve a lease, or is the Park Boards free to finalize an agreement?

Is the proposed food/drink establishment to be open to the public all the time? Or is it to be a private event venue occasionally available for public use?

Is the lease amount reasonable for the city? What is the percent of city lease to anticipated income to the leaseholder? Can the lease amount be a percentage of revenue rather than a fixed amount? Have you read Jack and the Beanstalk (what if the beans aren't magic?).

What would be the value of the city "being allowed" to use a fancy apartment in a public building for five days a year?

How much of the touted millions in cost to refurbish is the cost to turn the second floor of a fish hatchery into a fancy apartment? What would be the cost if it were returned into public meeting and event space instead?

Could WTC and high school building trades programs be used to refurb the building for public use?

Are there any energy efficiency standards being required of a refurb as the city is on the eve of writing its comprehensive climate action plan?

Again, a public space that will serve the public is what our park facilities should be used for. This proposal does not seem to be it.

Please don't sell off our public asset in this way.

Cathy

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