



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

October 1, 2014

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager *GT*

SUBJECT: Discussion/consideration of amplified music policies for the Women's Club and Peri Park

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss/consider amplified music policies for the Women's Club and Peri Park and provide staff direction.

DISCUSSION

In June, staff reported to the Council the amplified music policies for Town facilities. With regard to buildings, the Pavilion and Women's Club allow amplified music until midnight, unless the Town determines otherwise. This determination is based on the proposed type of music (e.g., D.J. band, trio). As a matter of practice, music in the Pavilion is allowed until midnight. The time limit for amplified music in the Women's Club is evaluated on a case-by-case basis because of the adjacent residences. It is not uncommon for residents to log complaints with PD for events in the Women's Club. For an upcoming wedding reception at the Women's Club we requested the music end at 11:00pm. For all events, we let the applicants know in advance that they may be asked to shut any doors and windows and /or lower the volume if we receive complaints regarding the noise.

Amplified music in the parks must be approved in advance by the Town. Typically, the music is required to end by sundown in parks. We generally define amplified music as derived from a live band or DJ as opposed to a performance.

However, staff did receive noise complaints regarding the recent wedding in the Women's Club. While such events are uncommon at the Women's Club (e.g., one wedding with amplified music in two years), it does raise the policy question for the Council to consider. Specifically, staff is seeking Council direction regarding amplified music at the Women's Club and Peri Park because they are directly located in residential neighborhoods.

The options for consideration are:

- 1) Do not revise the current music policy,
- 2) Limit the time and days for amplified music (e.g., weekends by 9:00pm),
- 3) Do not allow amplified music in the Women's Club and/or Peri Park, or
- 4) Allow amplified music for Town-sponsored events only with time limitations.

Staff is seeking policy direction on the issue so we can provide clarity to the users and surrounding neighborhoods regarding the use of amplified music at the Women's Club and Peri Park.

FISCAL IMPACT

Limiting or not allowing amplified music may impact the rental of the Women's Club. In general, amplified music has been allowed in Peri Park for Town-sponsored events, such as fundraisers for the Fairfax Open Space Committee. A limitation on amplified music could impact such events.

AGENDA ITEM # 11