

Zilker Cafe Conditional Use Permit Community Meeting

Question Report

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Actual Duration (minutes): 152

Question: 159

Question Details

#	Question	Asker Name	Asker Email (redacted)	Answer(s)
1	Will we be able to see all participants?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
2	I didn't hear the answer to Patricia's question. Will we be able to see all participants?	Karen Blizzard		
3	Are we going to be able to see who is in attendance? And are we muted?	Anonymous Attendee		
4	Yes, good question, are we all muted?	Karen Blizzard		
5	Will there be a time for comments (as opposed to questions)?	Bill Oliver		Yes. We will have a questions and comments portion at the end of the presentation.
6	Who is the selected vendor?	Patricia Bobeck		Thank you for the question. The selected vendor is Springfed L.L.C, we will provide more information on the vendor later in the presentation.
7	Who will enforce the perimeter?	Patricia Bobeck		Thank you for the question, Patricia. This question will be addressed later in the presentation.
8	Will the No Smoking rule be enforced? If so, by whom?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
9	Who is going to monitor whether booze goes outside of this area regardless of a "fence".	W. Tucker		As Christina mentioned, APD will be enforcing this. If your question was not fully answered, you can bring it up during the Q&A portion.
10	What kind of glasses will be used to serve beer? glass or plastic?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
11	What are the hours of operation for the cafe?	David King		live answered. Must be within park hours. Vendor can decide within those.
12	Who is going to keep inebriated consumers from entering the pool area?	Alma Kuttruff		live answered

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13	will lifeguards be responsible for removing floks who are drunk from the pool?	W. Tucker		live answered
14	I have never seen anyone enforce the No Smoking rule	Patricia Bobeck		
15	Barton Springs and Zilker Park are already very popular destinations. They get quite crowded, and parking is at a premium. Why does PARD want the cafe to be an additional destination rather than a service to people who are there primarily to enjoy the natural resources?	Kelly Besecke		live answered
16	<p>1. What will be done to prevent parking spaces from being used by diners/drinkers at Spring Fed from taking up scarce parking resources at BSP?</p> <p>2. How can you justify giving an alcohol license in close proximity to a playscape?</p> <p>3. Are there no other restaurants nearby (on Barton Springs Road) that serve alcohol? Why put one in over-taxed park resources?</p> <p>4. With so much public opposition, what is your motivation for approving alcohol sales?</p> <p>5. How will you police drunk driving out of the parking lot where there are many pedestrians and children playing in the park?</p> <p>6. How does the CoA benefit from sales of alcohol in Barton Springs? Please elaborate with specifics?</p>	Karen Kreps		live answered
17	Will park police enforce alcohol in/out rules during all hours of operation of the cafe?	David King		live answered
18	Thank you for having compostable service ware!	Karen Blizzard		We're happy about that part, too!
19	And, it didn't seem that the park has any problem being a destination. Why the need to sell alcohol to promote more visitors?	Alma Kuttruff		The varied offerings are a response to current visitors. It may also bring additional people, but it is difficult to know. The primary purpose is to provide additional amenities at the park.
20	So will APD be posted at the cafe to enforce the fence rule? If someone goes out, and police are not there, the escapee will be long gone.	Patricia Bobeck		
21	Is the contract with the concessionaire dependent on approval of the alcohol permit? Will the concessionaire remain even if the alcohol permit is denied?	Sam Martin		live answered

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22	You are asking lifeguards to be bouncers now?	Anonymous Attendee		The lifeguards are trained to identify inebriated visitors already as well as to identify any food or drink that individuals attempt to bring in.
23	The public needs to know the specific hours of operation of the cafe.	David King		The vendor will be able to determine the hours as long as they are within park hours.
24	If an accident or legal infraction occurs that could be related to alcohol consumption, who will be liable? The concessionaire?, COA?, both?	Sam Martin		Typically, primarily responsibility goes to the offender. If there is negligence in the serving or other aspect, then the responsibility can be shifted.
25	Thank you, Heidi, for your question about research into the scientific data associating alcohol consumption and drowning.	Karen Kreps		
26	What about the liability issue of PARD allowing and promoting the sale of alcohol in the park and at a pool concession stand?	Alma Kuttruff		
27	please ask the questions that Karen Kreps has asked	W. Tucker		
28	Why why why??? Other than vendor profits and city revenue(?), who wants this? Not the lifeguards I'm sure, and I've been one who has dealt with beach drunks. We don't need more pool visitors at 1 million a year now. This is a bad, unnecessary proposal.	Ed Crowell		
29	Do we not already have a lifeguard shortage? It seems that the additional tasks will exacerbate the lifeguard shortage.	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
30	And thank you for asking about how what they know about how the lifeguards feel about pulling drunk people out of the pool.	Karen Kreps		
31	WHY HAVE YOU NOT ASKED THE LIFEGURADS FEEL ABOUT THIS IN THIS SITUATION ????!!!!	W. Tucker		
32	Is there a reason that the city has not looked at the link between drinking and drowning? Is there a more "important" concern that weighs more heavily than drowning?	Patricia Bobeck		This is always a concern, which is why lifeguards at all pools are trained to identify patrons who may not be at full capacity.
33	fantastic question about liability.	W. Tucker		
34	What about alcohol and guns - now that no permits are needed for guns...and alcohol at the Springs?	Virginia Palmer		

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35	If the PARD lifeguards respond to survey that they oppose the permit, will PARD drop the request to serve alcohol?	Sam Martin		Just like other projects and programs, PARD staff members are key stakeholders. BSP lifeguards and otehr PARD staff members are invited to also provide comments supporting or against the permitting process. Any surveying will also be shared with the Parks and Recreation Board and Planning Commission, just like the comments here this evening.
36	The PARD intent to sell alcohol adjacent to the pool and in a family park area seems to have been promulgated with little concern for safety and well being of family visitors.	Alma Kuttruff		live answered
37	So will cafe patrons be required to order food to get an alcoholic drink?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
38	This meeting is about serving alcohol outside of the pool, not vegan and vegetarian and healthy food. Please stay on track.	Heidi Armstrong		
39	I never saw the cafe as a "destination" in my twelve of going to the pool. there is already a massive problem with parking at the pool and this will only be exacerbated by serving drinks.	W. Tucker		
40	How long would it take for APD to get to the cafe? Will APD be there at all times?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
41	Can you provide the data source Patricia Rossett stated as there being support for alcohol sale in the park?	Alma Kuttruff		
42	Can community members speak during this meeting?	Jennifer Robenalt		Yes, feel free to click the 'raise hand' icon if you would like to ask a question.
43	If the primary responsibility of keeping alcohol within the boundary is with the vendor, then what is the penalty to the vendor if this rule is disobeyed?	Daniel Opdyke		
44	I missed what Denisha said about the contract. Could you repeat?	Patricia Bobeck		

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45	Who gets the proceeds from the cafe sales of alcohol?	Jennifer Robenalt		The agreement with the concessionaire. The get the majority of proceeds. The City's share of revenue goes into the City's general fund, to support all of PARD operations, including pools, however, there is not a specific/direct relationship to the alcohol revenue and support of the pool alone.
46	karen's questions again:1. What will be done to prevent parking spaces from being used by diners/drinkers at Spring Fed from taking up scarce parking resources at BSP? 2. How can you justify giving an alcohol license in close proximity to a playscape? 3. Are there no other restaurants nearby (on Barton Springs Road) that serve alcohol? Why put one in over-taxed park resources? 4. With so much public opposition, what is your motivation for approving alcohol sales? 5. How will you police drunk driving out of the parking lot where there are many pedestrians and children playing in the park? 6. How does the CoA benefit from sales of alcohol in Barton Springs? Please elaborate with specifics?	W. Tucker		live answered
47	Please repeat the response to liability issues. I did not hear that addressed	Sam Martin		
48	"Who is liable" is very different from who will "enforce rules pertaining to alcohol."	Karen Kreps		
49	The shortage of lifeguards has reduced the public swim by 3 days a week!	Karen Kreps		
50	Are we trying to attract even more people to Zilker even with the parking situation and lack of safety personnel by allowing alcohol? There are bars within walking distance. Why are we putting more burdens on an already stretched thin staff?	Jennifer Robenalt		live answered
51	Does it seem likely that with an alcohol-serving cafe next door, there will be more inebriated people entering the pool?	Patricia Bobeck		
52	I also missed what Denisha said about the contract. Could you repeat?	Karen Kreps		

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53	Please respond to Karen Kreps' question: "How does the CoA benefit from sales of alcohol in Barton Springs? Please elaborate with specifics?"	David King		live answered
54	Will the Q/A chat be included in the recording of this meeting?	David King		Yes, a record of the Q&A chat will be posted on the website.
55	But it never had alcohol service in the past. It is naive to say it will not be a destination.	Karen Kreps		live answered
56	How can citizens oppose this? What is the process?	Jennifer Robenalt		Jennifer, here is the process now.
57	Why can't you bring your own food for your kids?	Karen Kreps		live answered
58	Why is it important to bring alcohol to Zilberberg park?	Anonymous Attendee		
59	typically playscapes near alcohol are part of the business (for example, a brewery with a playscape). My understanding is that TABC prohibits alcohol sales close to schools. Why would a public playscape be different?	Daniel Opdyke		
60	What is the estimated revenue gain to PARD after full implementation of the concession?	Sam Martin		
61	Please answer my questions #3-6.	Karen Kreps		
62	Barton's Springs is rowdy without alcohol involved. (And current facility rules don't allow alcohol or those drinking alcohol to enter) The pool is basically run by about 13 people on a shift, dealing with thousands of folks inside the gates, it can get out of control.	Nichole Bohner		
63	Can you provide information on your statement/research that the public supports alcohol adjacent to the playscape and pool?	Patricia Bobeck		
64	Will additional security or support be provided to the pool to help with issues that arise? Alcohol = even rowdier people. What are the measures being put into place to help them? My experience was that Park Police were support when needed, but they weren't dedicated to the pool itself and depending on their other calls and workload, they were often slow to respond. I'd suggest dedicated support during busy times if this measure moves forward.	Nichole Bohner		
65	Are you aware that you're not answering the questions, or do you really think these constitute answers?	Anonymous Attendee		
66	Justin - thank you for keeping the focus on the question.	Daniel Opdyke		
67	Please answer our questions as we ask them. You all are being evasive.	Anonymous Attendee		
68	Does the revenue share go to the general fund or does it benefit the pool?	Nichole Bohner		live answered

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69	Is someone implying that vegan food negates the effects of alcohol?	Patricia Bobeck		
70	This is not a good idea. 1) Public safety. 2) We need more family friendly all ages city spaces. 3) We don't need it. 4) Parking. 5) Bars are within walking distance. 6) Will attract more darling young people. 7) Why create potential problems where there are none now? 8) do we really need more public intoxication in Austin— especially next to a playground train tracks and a pool? 9) Healthier varied options are great. Why do we need alcohol too? 10) For money the city makes, we will pay for it.	Jennifer Robenalt		
71	So, to get healthy & vegan food options, we have to include alcohol on the menu? Wow!	David King		
72	Exactly David King! It's absurd.	Anonymous Attendee		
73	Can you present the data source for community support of alcohol sales at a public pool? When were the surveys conducted, what was the size of the data pool, what was the demographic sample and did it represent the whole Austin community?	Alma Kuttruff		
74	Thank you, Kasey (PARD)!	David King		
75	Will this chat be entered into the formal record of this meeting?	Karen Kreps		live answered
76	So there enough guards for 4 days a week, but not for the normal 6 day a week schedule, right?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
77	What effect will having alcohol sales at the pool have on people who belong to AA and are trying to stay sober and coming to the pool for a healthy lifestyle?	Karen Kreps		
78	Karen, I have saved a copy of the chat.	Anonymous Attendee		
79	Please present the data source for community support of alcohol sales at a public pool.	Karen Kreps		live answered
80	What was the data source for community support of alcohol sales at a public pool? When were the surveys conducted, what was the size of the data pool, what was the demographic sample and did it represent the entire Austin community?	Alma Kuttruff		
81	How many people are in attendance?	Karen Kreps		live answered
82	I think you've missed the question about legal liability	Sam Martin		
83	If the shortage of lifeguards continues, will the Cafe be open while the pool is closed?	Craig Nazor		live answered
84	What publicity for future meetings on this topic have been announced? Where? This is the first I've heard of one on next Tuesday.	Karen Kreps		live answered

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85	Thank you PARD staff for this community engagement meeting! Thank you for your service and hard work for our parks and recreation facilities!	David King		
86	You guys want a song in the comments?	Bill Oliver		live answered
87	I'm still unclear on alcohol leaving the designated area. If the vendor is primarily responsible for this, what will the penalty to the vendor be if it is disobeyed? What ability will they have to enforce if a person refuses?	Daniel Opdyke		
88	Has anyone considered the fact that men often behave inappropriately at the pool, even without alcohol? and that with alcohol there will be more inappropriate behavior? I ask because a woman told me the other day that she was exercising pool side and saw a man watching her. She finally figured out he was masturbating while watching her. Does the panel think that this type of behavior will increase with alcohol?	Patricia Bobeck		So sorry to hear this. This is such a challenge for our society, and specifically at BSP. This is terrible. I'm not sure that the panel can respond to this without making assumptions that we are not trained in.
89	If this CUP and license is granted and it results in a death or disability of a patron, what is the process for withdrawing this permit? Why not post full contract on webpage of project instead of a 6 week PIA request process?	Lin Mallardi		
90	The question about next Tuesday's meeting was about when and where it was announced. Will it be on Zoom? Will a recording of this and future meetings be easily available to the public, e.g. on a website?	Karen Kreps		live answered
91	Please put the URL of the website into the chat room.	Karen Kreps		It is in the general chat, but for reference this is the URL for the project webpage: https://www.austintexas.gov/department/pard-conditional-use-permit-applications
92	Please answer the question about legal liability.	Karen Kreps		
93	PARD staff has listed seemingly all pro reasons / benefits for serving alcohol. Surely y'all must have thought of / listed reasons for not serving alcohol. What are the reasons you came up with? Also, I have some comments I would like to publicly make.	Robert Corbin		live answered
94	So if someone drowns in the pool after drinking at the cafe, is the city responsible for the drowning in BSP?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered
95	What will be the capacity limit for the cafe area?	Karen Kreps		

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96	Has a cost analysis been done in order to understand the potential alcohol sales revenue for the city compared to the resources that will be required to keep the area safe and accessible?	Jennifer Robenalt		
97	Karen, Since they are not directly answering your questions about the meeting, I'll do it. The meetings are announced here: http://austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/39_1.htm This is agenda item B3. You can email Sammi.Curless@austintexas.gov, the PARD liaison to the Board, with your comments. I'll be doing the same.	Heidi Armstrong		Thank you for providing that information, Heidi. We are trying our best to get to the questions as quickly as we can.
98	We have actual data that say drinking and swimming don't mix: Driscoll TR, Harrison JA, Steenkamp M. Review of the role of alcohol in drowning associated with recreational aquatic activity. Injury Prevention 2004;10:107–113. Cummings P, Quan L. Trends in Unintentional Drowning: The Role of Alcohol and Medical Care. JAMA, 1999; 281(23):2198-2202. Read the CDC website about drowning: https://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalafety/water-safety/waterinjuries-factsheet.html	Heidi Armstrong		Thank you for providing this information.
99	Who are the partners in Springfed LLC?	Patricia Bobeck		
100	Robert is correct about the lack of law enforcement in our parks.	Craig Nazor		
101	Zilker Park is open from 5 am to 10 pm, 7 days per week. Will the cafe be open with alcohol sales from 5 am to 7 pm, 7 days per week?	David King		
102	Is there not also a problem of inebriated people walking on the greenbelt at the end of the parking lot, where women and children walk alone and must be un-accosted.	Karen Kreps		
103	To David King: They said it can be open any time the park is open so it could be open from 5AM-10PM, or at least that's what I conclude.	Kathleen Magor		live answered
104	@PARD Kasey — That's just the beginning. Please examine the data for yourself. You all are making a proposal directly opposed to scientific data and CDC guidelines. There will be physicians speaking at the next meeting.	Heidi Armstrong		
105	How expensive is this restaurant? Is it really for the public or for the elite?	Karen Kreps		

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106	I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this issue. We have so few family gathering areas in Austin and green space ratio per population is diminishing as Austin grows. PARD should have healthy wholesome family enjoyment as the #1 priority. Alcohol sales should not be a part of the PARD agenda for parks. Let's keep the parks family parks where children can enjoy space, fresh air and whole family activities.	Alma Kuttruff		
107	Are you saying there is a "community demand" for alcohol at the Springs????	Virginia Palmer		
108	Why are you pursuing this? Doesn't that already show a bias?	Craig Nazor		
109	GREAT COMMENT ALMA !	W. Tucker		
110	Good question: Who are the partners in Springfed LLC? Please answer it in the Chat room.	Karen Kreps		Rick Garrett and Shawn Cirkiel
111	Why is city staff using public resources talking the lead on trying to push this permit through instead of the concessionaire?	Anonymous Attendee		live answered
112	From the CDC website: Alcohol Use: Among adolescents and adults, alcohol use is involved in up to 70% of deaths associated with water recreation, almost a quarter of ED visits for drowning, and about one in five reported boating deaths. ^{2,15,17} Alcohol influences balance, coordination, and judgment, and its effects are heightened by sun exposure and heat.	Heidi Armstrong		
113	If I have one beer with my meal at the cafe, does that mean I'm a danger to the community?	Anonymous Attendee		
114	Are people having a drink at the cafe more dangerous than anyone else who visits the park?	Anonymous Attendee		
115	How could you propose this without a cost analysis???	Anonymous Attendee		
116	How can the research that is needed be done in the schedule you displayed at the beginning of this meeting?	Karen Kreps		
117	Wonderful points made about the nature of drunkenness hiding and why are we creating this situation. One suit from a drowning victim's family and this would be over. Give us one place without alcohol.	Ed Crowell		
118	Anonymous Attendee, why are you hiding your identify?	Karen Kreps		
119	The City is so afraid of being sued that it closes the pool when the weather gets below 32 or something like that. Why is it not afraid of being sued for all the problems that will come from this license to sell booze in the park?	Karen Kreps		
120	Yes, please identify the pro-alcohol people.	Karen Kreps		
121	Is Spring Fed a local business or national?	Karen Kreps		

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122	We need good planners running this project and communicating with the public.	Karen Kreps		
123	There are several questions that haven't been answered or haven't been answered thoroughly. Who has liability for drowning, injury, violence, or general bad behavior related to drinking at the cafe? How will the City benefit? What percentage will the City get from the cafe? Will that money go to the pool, PARD, or the general fund? Who and how many are the citizens who are supposedly clamoring to have alcohol at the cafe, and in exactly what way did this idea come from the community rather than	Kathleen Magor		
124	LOL. I hope Bill Oliver's new song lyrics about "Barton Drinks Eternal."	Karen Kreps		
125	Thank you Kam Magor for trying to keep the panelists focused on answering the questions.	Karen Kreps		
126	Bill, you are my hero	Kelly Besecke		
127	Continued: from PARD staff? When will cost analysis be done showing \$ made from cafe vs extra expenses to manage alcohol-related incidents?	Kathleen Magor		
128	bravo Bill!	Daniel Opdyke		
129	Bravo Bill!	Craig Nazor		
130	You sang it true, Bill. Good job!	Ed Crowell		
131	Is there a reason that there has been no study of the "benefits" of making money on alcohol sales and the "disadvantages" of having to spend money on policing the alcohol sales? Is there a reason that there has been no study of the dangers of mixing alcohol and swimming? Does the city not have a standard contract checklist to deal with liability issues such as this? How did these major ideas slip through?	Patricia Bobeck		
132	How many additional port-a-potties will be required for the beer drinkers now and while the bathhouse be under construction?	Anonymous Attendee		
133	See repetition of unanswered questions cited above.	Karen Kreps		
134	Thanks, Bill!	Patricia Bobeck		
135	Where will the recording of this meeting be available?	Karen Kreps		
136	Please put the URL of the website in this chat room.	Karen Kreps		
137	Please put the URL of the PARD info on this chat room.	Karen Kreps		
138	The agenda is posted but I'm not seeing a way to sign up for the meeting. As in register for a Zoom link.	Anonymous Attendee		
139	Yes, forgot to ask — does the cafe have a restroom?	Patricia Bobeck		live answered

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140	Gee, we get 1 and a half business days to register for comments	Karen Kreps		
141	http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=362403	Kelly Besecke		
142	Hi Patricia, Thanks for that clarification - we the taxpayers own the park!	Patricia Bobeck		
143	What about the audio recording? Where can it be seen soon?	Karen Kreps		The video recording will be posted on the project webpage: https://www.austintexas.gov/department/pard-conditional-use-permit-applications
144	How can others hear your answers?	Karen Kreps		
145	But who prevents them from entering if they've had too much to drink?	Kathleen Magor		
146	Where will the recording of this meeting be available?	Karen Kreps		
147	Bill, please do post your lyrics here.	Karen Kreps		
148	Where will the recording of this meeting be available?	Karen Kreps		You should find it here on the project webpage: https://www.austintexas.gov/department/pard-conditional-use-permit-applications
149	Where will the recording of this meeting be available?	Karen Kreps		
150	How can the public watch Tuesday's PARB meeting?	Kelly Besecke		
151	Thanks for the song, Bill! You nailed it.	Jennifer Robenalt		
152	So we cannot participate at PARB meeting?	Patricia Bobeck		
153	I've heard no support for this idea throughout the meeting.	Alma Kuttruff		
154	The Parks Board meeting is streamed live on ATXN.	Anonymous Attendee		
155	When the bathhouse is closed, and the restaurant is open, how will that work?	Craig Nazor		
156	how does one access the chat room?	Anonymous Attendee		
157	Hey Bill - another verse about drunks in the bathhouse...	Virginia Palmer		
158	Who are you Anonymous Attendee? Do you work for the city or represent any BSP group?	Karen Kreps		
159	As to the restroom?	Craig Nazor		