

STREET ENTERTAINERS  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
2011-MAR-30

PRESENT: Councillor Fred Pattje, Chair  
Mayor John Ruttan  
Councillor Loyd Sherry  
Councillor Jim Kipp  
Councillor Diana Johnstone  
Councillor Bill Bestwick

STAFF: Randy Churchill, Bylaw Services  
Tom Neil, Permit Centre  
Nelda Richardson, Permit Centre  
Veneta Roberge, Business Licences  
Debbie Graves, Business Licences  
Gail Honeyman, Bylaw Services

PUBLIC: There were approximately 10 members of the public present.

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm with opening remarks from Councillor Pattje and Randy Churchill.

Presentations:

Eric McLean – McLean’s Specialty Foods

- has been involved from the beginning
- would like to see an audition process
- has offered to sit on the audition panel
- how can one deal with those who are not talented
- how do business owners deal with someone busking outside their business who is causing a disturbance or has been playing for an excessive length of time
- is impressed with the City’s endeavour

Tom Bebyck – Pacifica

- the strata council objects to the street entertainer location at the sails on the walkway in front of Pacifica
- the spot is popular with the public who do not use the spot when there is busking there

- the townhomes are affected and the noise rises to the upper floors
- residents of Pacifica cannot enjoy time on their decks because of the noise

Mr. Brough – Pacifica

- lives on the sixth floor
- sometimes can hear three separate street entertainers at the same time
- is irritated by the noise
- is asking for the spot at the sails to be removed
- wants auditions
- wonders if there could be control of what is being sung
- should be more like Victoria's waterfront
- residents do not know where to go to get help

Gord Fuller

- Nanaimo has a vibrant downtown
- the street entertainer location at the sails was there before the building was occupied and is a lucrative spot. It should remain as it has the greatest width and is adaptable to many forms of entertainment.
- feels the "dangerous props" definition is too restrictive
- there will be both bad and good buskers
- fines are too high

Tim Lander

- there should be sites at malls
- buskers are a good part of the culture
- feels that buskers should be able to perform in groups if they have individual licences
- feels that individual buskers should be allowed to jam as it will make the musicians better

Councillor Pattje thanked everyone for attending and asked that any input be submitted to the City by 2011-Apr-25.

The meeting terminated at 8:00 pm.