

Rules from A7

cited his experience as a security guard, spoke to the unnecessary burden of background checks.

"I'd have to agree with Mr. Justin Cobb about the overreaching nature of that," he said. "And I would have to disagree with your background checks for any and all employees that are not actually going through the OLCC (Oregon Liquor Control Commission) to be serving alcohol in the establishment."

Welch-Cook argued that, as long as activities are done within the confines of an establishment and out of sight, they ought to be able to operate their business how they like.

Cobb pointed out that externalities have already occurred as, following the Top of the Bowl's soft opening on June 5, there were several complaints about noise and litter.

Barker added that, "within the first weekend, the police were called out because there was a motorcycle gang blocking Highway 38. There have been unreasonable and unreasonably loud, rancorous noises disturbing the peace, the sleep, quiet, comfort and the repose of others in violation of the City of Drain Code of Ordinance."

She also cited other violations such as the use of other private parking areas and general disorderly conduct of patrons going to other local business to cause distress.

Top of the Bowl owner Jamie Hennricks and boyfriend Rik Marin were

present at the meeting. Marin, who helps manage the business, countered that the litter was cleaned up and the cans in question were due to roommates at his house, which is across the street from the establishment and unrelated to the business.

"In regards to your police reports, I went down to Roseburg and pulled the incident report. Thirteen of those complaints came from one lady," he said. "We've never been contacted by the sheriff's department for any of these complaints. ... And it's one person who made 13 of the 16 complaints."

The establishment was issued one citation, however, when cleaning staff failed to respond to an officer's attempt to contact owners about a noise complaint.

Community member Stephen O'Malley then spoke in favor of the establishment.

"This is a business that has been protected by the Constitution of the State of Oregon since the State of Oregon was formed," he said, adding that business hours needed to be taken into consideration as Top of the Bowl does not operate while any children would be present.

"We're talking about trying to put limitations on a business that is already operating within the confines of a legal operation," he said. "Let's see how any of you guys feel when somebody tries to come and pick on something you guys are trying to do."

An unnamed audience member countered that

constitutional law has historical precedent for change.

"Slavery was also legal in this country before 1865," he said. "At that time the law was antiquated and was changed — just like what we're trying to do today — because we felt that it did not represent the moral compass of our community."

At one point, the room erupted after a woman identifying as a dancer for 17 years attempted to make a case for her job redirecting aberrant behavior.

"I have a lot of customers who come in and ask me to be a six-year-old girl," she said. "So, when I pretend to be that six-year-old girl, they're getting their fantasy out and not needing to get with these girls from the church."

Many in the audience groaned and began speaking over each other as the mayor was forced to restore order.

As the public hearing wrapped up, Top of the Bowl owner Hennricks read from a statement in which she objected to the ordinance and pointed out that the business opened before the ordinance had been considered and was thus grandfathered in.

Following these remarks, the council then passed the ordinance with Mayor Cobb and Councilor Marilyn Jones voting against.

In a previous interview with *The Sentinel*, Cobb had also expressed reservation about the inclusion of business licenses.

"I'm a staunch believer in very limited government control," he said. "So enact-

ing a business license to me just feels wrong. It's against my better instincts to want to do this."

The ordinance is subject to further revisions under the Community Plan Revision Process.

Next Steps

Following the council meeting, Marin and Hennricks spoke to *The Sentinel*.

"I feel there were a lot of false statements on the city council's behalf," said Marin. "I feel they're really reaching for straws this time around."

In particular, Marin took issue with the characterization of a "motorcycle gang" blocking traffic and the degree to which complaints had been leveled at the business.

Marin also dismissed the idea that the establishment is operating under the definition of "public nudity" as the business' event room is on the second floor with no visibility from outside.

"We have blackout curtains. Even if you were on a hill with a spotting scope, you cannot see inside our building," he said. "I just really feel that they've twisted it around."

Meanwhile, Barker remains confident the ordinance's language will stick.

"It's the language that the courts use in their opinions," she said.

Other disagreements still remain unresolved, such as whether Top of the Bowl's opening before setting the ordinance "grandfathers" the business into an exception from the new restrictions.

Generally speaking, Marin and Hennricks feel

they are entitled to operate their business within the confines of the law.

"And a local township should not be able to dictate what a business owner does or does not do in their business," said Marin.

But despite the ordinance's passage, Marin and Hennricks are intent on putting up a fight.

"If they come and try to shut us down, we're not going to shut down," said Marin. "And at that point we will sue the City of Drain."

At the same time, Barker is adamant that the lack of notice regarding Top of the Bowl's controversial busi-

ness practices will come around to bite them.

"They're going to be provided due process of law," she said. "That was one of the biggest issues that the public had. We were not provided notice."

However the issue unravels, two unmovable objects seem destined to collide as the new ordinance takes affect and is eventually enforced.

As if to belie her steadfast conviction, Hennricks in the end reflected on the situation with causal indifference.

"I'm not worried at all about the ordinance," she said.

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Recycling in the Grove

David Gardiepy EcoGeneration Founder and Executive Director

"Recycling has become so complicated, why even bother anymore?" and "This is so much work, is it worth all of this just to save some trash?" These are two statements that any EcoGeneration volunteer has been asked countless times. As the individuals handling the 'more complex' streams of plastic and other hard to recycle materials, we more than understand your sentiments. However, we will always assert, that yes it is worth the effort to ensure that we preserve resources for future generations. Regardless of your stance on Climate Change, I think we can all agree that there are benefits to appropriate waste and material management in terms of resource usage. This collective goal of ours is worth the time, investment, and effort. Through appropriate waste management, we are able to save so much more than just the tangible resources. We are able to reduce our dependence on oil, reduce our dependence on destructive forestry practices around the world, work towards a sustainable future without an earth overshoot day, and be able to enjoy our natural environment free of litter. This list is definitely not exhaustive, however I think that we are able to recognize some of the tangible benefits of recycling. At EcoGeneration we would love to help you recycle the right way, with the least amount of effort. The first step in this process, is to know what you can recycle comingled in Cottage Grove-whether its curbside or at the Lane County Waste Management Transfer Station.

Cottage Grove Garbage Company Curbside: In your curbside bin you are able to discard mixed paper and cardboard. It is important to note several exceptions to this list, as there is always going to be exceptions. All mixed paper must be clean. Paper items such as drink cups, paper plates, napkins, tissue, pizza boxes, and frozen food cartons are NOT accepted for recycling, and neither is shredded paper. When thinking about disposable paper products, its important to know that things like cups and tableware generally have plastic that you cannot see in the paperboard. This is also true for the majority of frozen food cartons. They may feel like paper, however, this is just not the case. Pizza boxes are not currently accepted for recycling as they have a high degree of contamination. Milk cartons are also not accepted for recycling.

You are also able to recycle clean tin cans, with the lid still attached. If you attempt to recycle lids that are not still attached to their cans, it is likely that it will become contamination in the paper stream, and end up being



sent to a landfill by a papermill. Lastly, clean aluminum cans and foil are also able to be discarded in your curbside bin. For best practices, you should ball up your foil, and only discard it when you have more than a softball sized ball of foil. If you want to recycle clean food grade glass bottles or jars, they should be set next to your recycling bin. Glass cups, plates, bowls, windows, candle jars, and/or candle holders are not recyclable and can contaminate the glass cullet. You are also able to set out up to 5 quarts of clearly marked used motor oil (in its original container) to recycle. This too should be set to the side of the curbside bin.

The Lane County Transfer Station in Cottage Grove also accepts all of the above. Here, you should keep your carboard separate, so that it can be maintained in a single recycling stream. You are also able to drop off clean transparent milk jugs in the commingle bin. White milk jugs are not accepted here for recycling. Which is a great segway into what you cannot recycle in curbside or at the transfer station. Items that consist of plastic cannot be recycled in commingled curbside recycling at all. The transfer station will happily take your clear milk jugs and that is all. That seems to leave an awful lot of recycling on the table.

This is where EcoGeneration is working to fill the gap in the community. EcoGeneration is able to assist residents recycle their household plastics. Due to the complexity of recycling plastics we will discuss this in September. If you would like to learn more about recycling plastic, I encourage you to review our website at ecogeneration.org or join our Recycling with EcoGeneration group on Facebook. This month, I would like to leave you with a question for this month. How does waste contribute to our greenhouse gas emissions? We encourage you to check out our Facebook page to learn more about the importance of recycling reframed into a greenhouse gas perspective and read our blog (posted today) about how waste management matters in a climate concerned society.

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