



DENVER
INC

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Neighborhoods work better when they work together.

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

September 18, 2014

Lauri Dannemiller, Manager
Denver Parks and Recreation
Lauri.Dannemiller@denvergov.org

Re: Motion on Disturbing the Peace in Parks

Dear Lauri,

Founded in 1975, INC's mission is to advocate for Denver citizens by bringing together, informing and empowering Denver neighborhood organizations to actively engage in addressing city issues. INC is an association of approximately 100 Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) from neighborhoods throughout Denver.

We are in receipt of your letter of August 27, 2014 to INC PARC in which you acknowledge violation of rule 10 of DPR Rules and Regulations (based on Sec. 39-12- Disturbance of the Peace). This violation occurred at Denver's first large Admission Based Event (ABE), Chive Fest, at City Park. We are grateful you have pledged that the type of language and behavior will not be tolerated. However, nothing short of never having this type of breach of the public peace occurring again is acceptable. Your solution would have Park Rangers give warnings and second chances to would be violators. We admire and respect our increasingly effective cadre of Park Rangers, but they should not be charged with making decisions regarding shutting down large active events. This approach falls drastically short of proactively setting up policies and procedures which would insure that park goers, residents in their homes, entire neighborhoods and especially children are protected from such reprehensible language.

This type of incident should come as no surprise. INC took a stand in opposition to ABEs and in favor of a Festivals Park more than five years ago. It was in part because this exact kind of problem regarding unacceptable behavior and language adversely effecting park users and neighborhoods was anticipated and articulated by neighborhood representatives to the City's Admission Based Events Policy Task Force. The City administrators and elected officials at the time, dismissed this concern outright and said no such problems would occur. It is with this in mind that INC has promulgated a Resolution asking that a moratorium on Admission Based Events be put in place until such time that community based policies and procedures are developed that will resolve this clear danger. The vote for approval of this Resolution on Disturbance of the Peace was by 27 in favor with 5 opposed and 4 abstentions.

INC Resolution on Disturbance of the Public Peace in Parks

- ⌚ WHEREAS, Inter Neighborhood Cooperation adopted the *Platform for Denver Urban Parks* in 2011, and
- ⌚ WHEREAS, the Park Platform emphasizes protection of open green space and community-based park use policies, and
- ⌚ WHEREAS, Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) is not to issue a festival park permit in violation of the Denver City Municipal Code, Sec. 39-12- Disturbance of the Peace; and
- ⌚ WHEREAS, under Sec. 39-12-Disturbance of the Peace, language permitted for festival permits which is unseemly, profane, vulgar, or obscene is not allowed and its usage in open public park space and would result in a summons, and
- ⌚ WHEREAS, Denver Parks and Recreation permitting has issued permits for festival parks, in violation of Sec. 39-12 and the Department's own published rules and regulations regarding Disturbance/Noise, and is likely to do so in the future, and

- ⌚ WHEREAS, A permit in in violation of Sec. 39-12, was recently issued for the Chive Fest at which unseemly, profane, vulgar, obscene, language was evident in open public parks space and heard throughout nearby neighborhoods, now therefore,
- ⌚ BE IT RESOLVED, that until community based policies and procedures are in place to screen and to manage permitting of such events and ensure that they are consistent with standards explicit in the Denver City Municipal Code Sec. 39-12-Disturbance of the Peace, INC respectfully requests Denver Parks and Recreation place an immediate moratorium on all Admission Based Events permitting.

Representatives from the INC PARC are prepared to work at the highest level at the very beginning of the planning process with representatives of DPR and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to develop such policies and procedures just as quickly as possible. Please let me know if you are open to discuss such a process in which those most effected, Denver's neighborhoods, can have a seat at the table.

Respectfully yours,



President, INC

Cc: Mayor Michael B. Hancock
Denver City Council
Michael Sapp
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
INC Executive Committee
INC PARC