



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Parks and Recreation

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Dear INC PARC Committee,

I'm sure you are aware of complaints that have surfaced regarding vulgar and profane language used by one of the bands performing at the recent Chive Festival, an admission-based event held at City Park on August 16.

By most accounts, the Chive Fest as an event was well managed by the organizer. They went to great lengths to ensure there were plans in place for parking, trash, restroom facilities and security. They willfully agreed to our requests to cut alcohol sales off at 9 p.m. and paid for many additional services, including off-duty police officers, extra park rangers and private security, at our request. The decibel levels throughout the event, which was potentially a major problem, were compliant with the D.R.M.C. as monitored by the Dept. of Environmental Health throughout the afternoon and evening.

Unfortunately, one of the bands in their lineup, Steel Panther, used language and lyrics that I can only describe as vulgar, profane and obscene. The band started their set at approximately 7:30 p.m. We do have a park rule that prohibits such language (rule 10.0 of parks rules and regulations). Because this was the first event of its kind in City Park, I think it is safe to say that as hard as we worked with the promoter to plan for a peaceful and well-organized event, we were also dealing with many issues for the first time. As this was not an issue that had been planned for, our rangers on site did not take action against the band or the promoter for a rule violation.

With hindsight obviously 20/20 in this case, I can tell you this type of behavior and language will not be tolerated going forward. I have sent a letter to the organizer (attached) that, among other things, notifies them that if they wish to bring Chive or any other admission-based event back to one of our facilities in the future, a repeat of this incident is not acceptable. Specifically I will use the authority given to the executive director to put additional requirements on any admission based event.

Going forward, event organizers will be required to sign a document stating that they are familiar with rule 10.0 specifically. We will be very clear that the first violation of this rule will get a warning and the second violation will be a shut-down of the performance and, quite possibly, of the entire event. I will use this standard going forward to apply to all special events in parks as well as admission-based events.

It is unfortunate that this event has been marred by these unfortunate circumstances. However, as indicated above, we will learn from this event and move forward accordingly with any potential future events.

Regards,

Lauri Dannemiller
Executive Director