

CITY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: October 13, 2015

ITEM TITLE: Taylor Pavilion Use Follow Up

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

The initiating Department Director will place below, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

Review:

Jennifer Bell	Completed	10/06/2015 3:48 PM
Anthony Williams	Completed	10/08/2015 3:00 PM
Eden Freeman	Completed	10/08/2015 4:36 PM

Approved as to form:

Jennifer Bell

Jennifer Bell, Downtown Manager 10/6/2015

By: 

Winchester
office of the
city attorney *virginia*

Anthony C. Williams, City Attorney
Office of the City Attorney
15 N. Cameron Street, Suite 313
Winchester, VA 22601
Phone: 540-667-1815, x 1433
Fax: 540-667-2259


Eden Freeman, City Manager 10/8/2015

CITY COUNCIL ACTION MEMO

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Jennifer Bell, Downtown Manager

Date: October 13, 2015

Re: Taylor Pavilion Use Follow Up

THE ISSUE:

In May, a Conditional Use Permit was approved by City Council permitting Amphitheater Use at the Taylor Pavilion. At that time it was requested for staff to return in a few months to report on the use.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Advance quality of life and Promote and accelerate revitalization of targeted areas throughout the City. (OTW)

BACKGROUND:

Concerns were expressed at the time of the permit issuance regarding noise and appropriate hours for use of the Taylor Pavilion space due to its proximity to apartments.

BUDGET IMPACT:

No budget impact.

OPTIONS:

Discuss the use of the Pavilion for City and private events.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Continue to allow Conditional Use Permit to govern use of the Pavilion.



TAYLOR PAVILION

Report on Amphitheater Use



City of Winchester Events

At the Taylor Pavilion

- **Kidzfest** - May 16
- **Old Town Farmers Market** - Saturdays, mid-May – Halloween 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **Classic Movie Night** – June, July, August
- **Friday Night Live** - June, July and August
- **Sunday Concerts** – June, July, August, September

Friday Night Live





Taylor Pavilion Venue allows socializing beneath the pavilion which helps absorb sound.



Friday Night Live Events

- Sounds checks were conducted repeatedly using
 - Hand held - CheckMate SPL meter CM-130
 - db Noisemeter App
- Sound checks were conducted numerous times under the wooden pavilion and within the Taylor Hotel Building within four feet of the glass door.
- Sound checks were done at the following locations inside downtown stores, on the Loudoun Street Walking Mall and on Indian Alley.

June Friday Night Live

- 5:50 - 60db reading only about 70 people in the venue.
- 5:56 p.m. – 45db inside Bells Clothier
- 6:00 p.m. – sound at Runners Retreat overpowered by street performers, some sound audible in Indian Alley by Union Jack
- 7:43 p.m. – 62db, 210 people in the venue
- 8:41 p.m. - 65db in venue, 323 people on the mall
- 10:11 p.m. – 56db, 120 people in the venue, 130 on mall

July Friday Night Live

- 6 p.m. 100 people in venue 70db quickly adjusted to below 65db
- 6:45 there were 675 people on the mall with 175 chairs set up in the venue, volume below 65db
- Worked with Bluemont doing sound checks. FNL Sound tech met with Bluemont and altered FNL volume, shared cell # for any additional concerns.
- 7:45 – approximately 400 people in the overall venue, over 700 people on the mall, Robbie Limon band volume peaked at 64db
- 10:00 – 60db approximately 450 people in the overall venue, 500 people on the mall.

August Friday Night Live

- 6 p.m. – 70db, adjusted immediately below 65db 100+ people in the venue.
- Worked with Bluemont doing sound checks. FNL Sound tech met with Bluemont and altered FNL volume, shared cell # for any additional concerns.
- 7:00 p.m.(approximately) – 60db reading
- 8:45 p.m. – 300 in venue, 700+ on mall
- 10:00 p.m. – 58db, 200+ in venue. 450+ on mall



FNL

During events sound volume was impacted by the number of people in the venue and the positioning of the speakers.

The July FNL required the greatest adjustment as the band began over the 65 db threshold at 70 db and was quickly adjusted to a lower volume. There continued to be some spillover sound to the Old Courthouse Lawn where a Bluemont Concert was held. This required additional reduction in volume at the Taylor.



Taylor Sunday Concerts

June, July, August & September



No concerns with volume,
music with very limited
amplification.



Classic Movie Nights

June, July & August



Volume kept low, some concerns from patrons volume was too low, need for speakers near wooden pavilion to help with appropriate surround sound.



Farmers Market

Saturdays, mid-May - Halloween

Musical Entertainment most weeks at 11a.m.

- Mostly acoustic background music with little amplification.

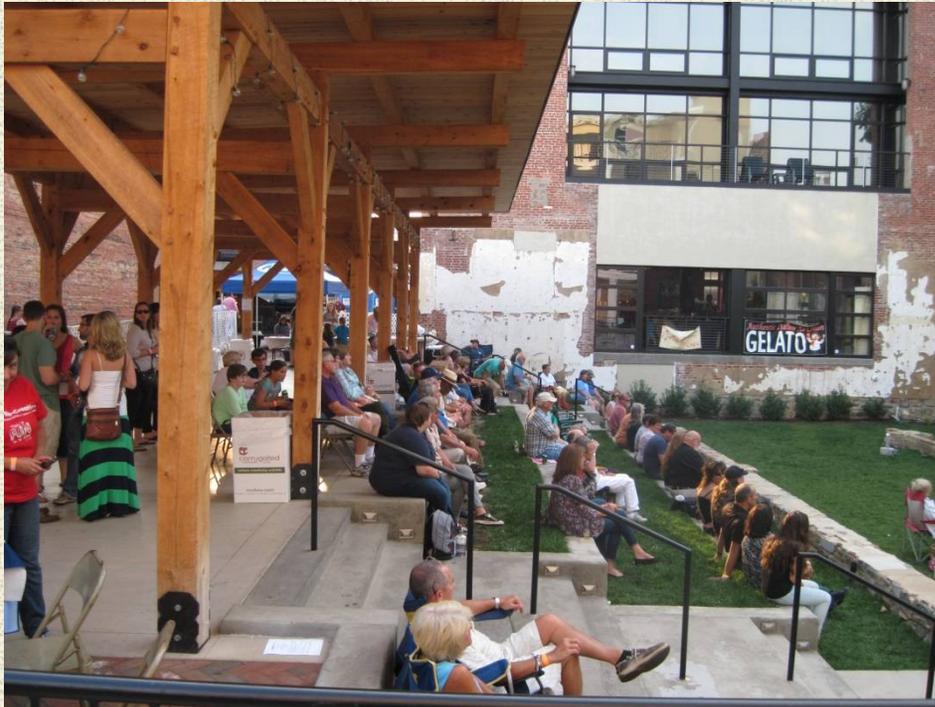


Private Events

At the Taylor Pavilion
Since May 2015

- **NAMI** (National Alliance for the Mentally ill) **Fundraiser** - August 29
- **Valley Reads Event** (Handley Library/Park and Rec Event) – August 8
- **Woods - Liggins Wedding** – September 26

NAMI Fundraiser



Sound meter readings low - average in the 55db range.

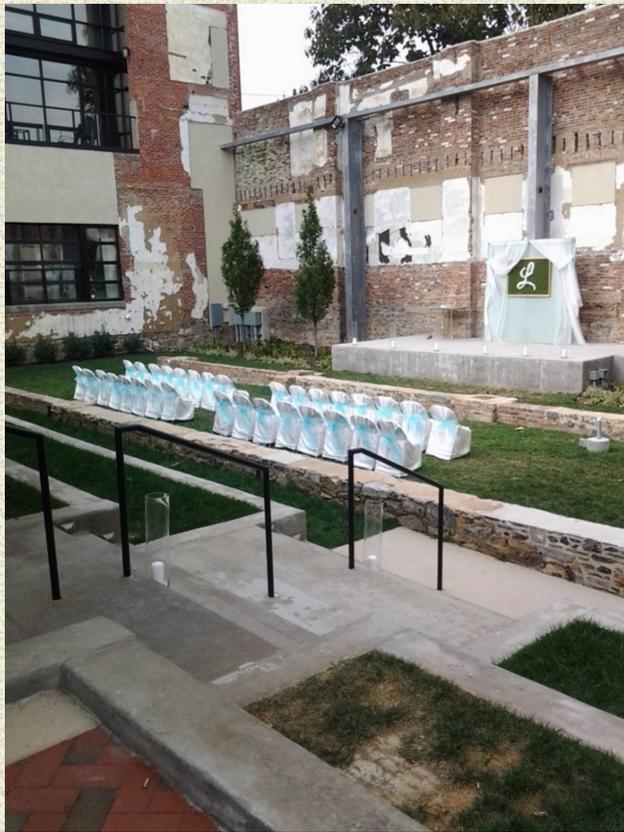
Valley Reads Event



Volume not a concern.



Woods-Liggins Wedding



Volume not a concern,
music provided by a string quartet.



Conditional Use Permit at the Taylor Pavilion

- CU-15-219 A Conditional Use Permit for Amphitheater Use at the Taylor Pavilion subject to the following conditions:
 - 1. Use to begin no earlier than 9 a.m. every day and end no later than 10 p.m. on Sunday through Wednesday nights, no later than (11:00 p.m.,) on Thursday night and no live bands on Thursday night, and no later than midnight on Friday and Saturday nights and on New Year's Eve.
 - 2. All events and amplification proposals are coordinated through the Downtown Manager or other City official designated by the City Manager.
 - 3. Operations shall comply with applicable noise and maximum sound level regulations per Chapter 17 of the Winchester City Code, as amended.