

James Feenan

From: Julia Krog
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 8:27 AM
To: pbscommissions; James Feenan
Subject: FW: Letter for Public comment

Mendocino County

SEP 05 2023

Planning & Building Services

Julia Krog

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From: Jeanie Dobbins <dobbinsjeanie@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 12:26 PM
To: Julia Krog <krogj@mendocinocounty.gov>
Subject: Letter for Public comment

August 31, 2023

Mendocino Historical Review Board
Public comment

Re: Mendocino Tents
Board Meeting September 11, 2023

Dear MHRB and Staff,

I am here to offer my public view on the need for restaurant tents in Mendocino. My parents started coming up here in the late 60's and eventually relocated our family here in 1971. I grew up here. I went through grade school and high school here. Mendocino, at one time, was a place where time stood still. But this is no longer the case. I have seen so many changes in Mendocino in the past 10 years, and an accelerated amount of changes in the past 5.

Mendocino was once a place full of artists, musicians and single families looking to escape the cities and raise their children in the country. This is no longer the case. It is now a place for 2nd home buyers who turn homes into vacation rentals. There is no work for young families. Housing is in crisis. Restaurants provide work.

The Mendocino coast had 4 major industries;

Logging
Fishing
Cannabis
Tourism.

Logging has been long done, fishing is over, Cannabis has been out taxed by the State of California. The only major industry now is tourism, and if we don't accommodate visitors then we could lose that as well. All you need to do is walk through town and see the long lines of tourists and locals waiting for tables at the few restaurants we have in town. Having covered dining is absolutely essential, and most certainly in the summer months when we desperately need the seats. I would like to point out that this is not just about "covering the tables". These tents provide shelter for the working staff, for work stations, water stations, and other things that need coverage for the health and safety for the guests and the staff.

Patterson's also has a loyal following of senior citizens who come in for lunch who are not comfortable sitting indoors and still wear masks. If they didn't have the warmth of the tents, they wouldn't come to the Pub.

I understand the review board has an obligation to adhere to certain specifications, but I feel you also have an obligation to the needs of the majority of this community and its visitors.

You have expressed concerns about water. I would like to point out, that if folks don't use the restaurants bathrooms, then they will go to the public ones on Main Street, or in their hotel or inn. So you see, the same amount of water is being used regardless of where they use it. If we remove the tents what will you allow? If we have large umbrellas, are you going to say they are too large or not the proper color? Are you going to allow us to attach an awning to our buildings so we can have a safe dry working environment?

Can you really just forget about all this town as gone through in the past 3 years? Like it never happened? We have put a lot of time, money, heart and soul to keep our places open. Now we have to invest more time and money? We want to abide by the rules, what ever they may be, but the rules need to evolve with the unprecedented situation we are currently in. At this time we ask that the board and staff give us guidance as to what you do want. We are asking that you change with the changing times, work with us not against us.

Once again, the tents are adored by everyone who sit under them. It has been the only good thing to come from the Pandemic.

9/2/23

Upon reading the **Memorandum** regarding the tent permit, I feel the need to add additional comments to this letter.

1. Delivery trucks do not arrive before 7am. (Unless it's the Post Office) Trucks need to drop off goods. This has not changed in decades. Corners of the Mouth, MacCallum House, Flow, Goodlife, Cafe Beaujolais, Mendocino Cafe, Luna and Trillium all get street parking delivery. There are no deliveries on weekends. Ever.

2. Patterson's has additional seating, yes. But we have never had 64 bodies in that garden at one time. Nor would we allow it. Our kitchen is the same size. We can not accommodate that kind of crowd. We monitor this closely. It is not a free for all. We would not subject our staff to such nonsense.

3. Parking has ALWAYS been an issue in Mendocino. For many many years. This is nothing new. In fact, on the weekends most folks that come to the Pub and the Goodlife are on foot, walking from their Inn or AirBB. Have you shopped at Harvest Market at 4pm on weekdays? Packed. We all do the best we can regarding parking. The additional seats are the not cause of Mendocino parking woes.

4. Covid is on the rise, again. Outdoor seating is a must. The CDC says we must be diligent. Mask wearing is required in doctors and hospitals again.

5. I find it ironic they're individuals in our town who can not work with the community for the good of the community. Why are they not upset about the line of sprinter vans parked on Main Street? These folks empty their human waste cassettes and clean them in our public bathrooms. They fill our town trash cans with their waste as well. We have homeless living in cars everywhere. But rather than deal with those issues people are fighting the very people who pay taxes, provide jobs and support the this wonderful town we call home. Why can't we just work together?

Warm regards,

Jeanie Hathaway-Dobbins

Patterson's Pub Mendocino LLC

General Manager