




To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager 
Date: May 3, 2018
Initiated By: Michelle L. Crandall, Assistant City Manager
Re: Tantrum Theater – Waiver Requests

Background

Ohio University's College of Fine Arts (COFA) is requesting two waivers related to the operations of Tantrum Theater's Summer Theater Program. The City is entering into a 3rd year lease agreement with Ohio University for the use of the Abbey Theater to serve as the summer home of Tantrum Theater. Two plays are planned for this summer season, with performances beginning June 6 and running through July 29. The first waiver request is related to alcohol service, and the second is related to the extension of the Dublin Community Recreation Center (DCRC) rental hours to accommodate evening rehearsals and performances. These waivers are similar to those requested the past two years. The following is a summary of each waiver request:

Waiver #1 – Serving of Alcohol for Opening Receptions

This waiver request is for Ohio University to serve wine and/or beer in the lobby area adjacent to the theater and in the second floor open area following the opening night performance of each of the three shows. This theater lobby area was designed to accommodate these type of events and can be easily blocked off to restrict the consumption of alcohol to only this designated area. Access can also be restricted in a manner that will not allow for the general public to enter or pass through the reception area, but still allow easy entry and access by patrons to the rest of the facility.

Currently, under Chapter 35 of the Dublin Codified Ordinances (Schedule of Fees and Service Charges), the serving of beer and wine is limited to only the Community Hall (Tallas) portion of the DCRC and is further limited to such service occurring after 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

This waiver would allow for alcohol to be served in a location other than the Community Hall. Otherwise the service is in compliance with days of the week and time restrictions.

The reception dates and times are as follows:

Friday, June 8, 10:00 pm - midnight, following *The Cake*

Friday, July 13, 10:00 pm - midnight, following *Next to Normal*

All other requirements currently related to the serving of alcohol within the Community Hall will be adhered to by Ohio University. These requirements will be as follows:

The serving and consumption of beer and wine is limited to the confines of the area designated for the reception and must comply with State of Ohio liquor laws. Additional proof of insurance may be required. The City of Dublin is not liable for any injuries to guests or negligence where alcohol is involved. Special Duty Police Officer(s) must be contracted by the rental group and are required on the premises throughout the entire event when alcohol is being served. An additional \$100 refundable damage deposit will be collected for groups serving alcohol.

Ohio University will contract with a company that holds a catering/serving license for this event. This is required of those renting the Community Hall when beer and wine are served.

Waiver #2 – Extension of DCRC Rental Hours

This waiver request is for Ohio University to rent the Abbey Theater up to midnight, seven days/week as needed, and communicated with City staff to accommodate rehearsal and performance times.

Currently, under Chapter 35 of the Codified Ordinances (Schedule of Fees and Service Charges), rental hours for the Abbey Theater can only be extended up to midnight on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, pending staff and facility availability. Ohio University will have a need as part of both rehearsals and performances to extend rental of the theater up to midnight on any day of the week during their summer rental schedule. A full preliminary schedule has been reviewed with the DCRC staff and, based on this schedule, the City could provide a staff member during requested evenings.

Recommendation

Staff is requesting Council take action on both of these waiver requests. Rachel Cornish, Director of External Relations for OU's College of Fine Arts, will be in attendance at the Council meeting to respond to any questions Council Members may have related to these waiver requests.