DAY AFTER MEETING WITH GAIL MATSON/CANDACE BOUCHARD:
10/14/2015

I brought up a valid point at the meeting. The conditions one can hold an event on the application to have an event- are quite vague as to what exactly constitutes the city codes/violations. There is no mention whatsoever on the permit application of the Concord Municode-

NOISE: " "It shall be violation of this Ordinance if excessive noise from the licensed (permit holder) activity causes any deprivation to the use and enjoyment of property by residents located in the vicinity. "

This is separate from another ordinance which states the hours from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. as a general reference when excessive noise is not allowed as well.

Hmm.. I would like a reporting on how many noise complaints were called in to the Concord PD alone. Another MUNICODE pertaining to noise: Tumultuous Conduct: "It shall be violation of this Ordinance for a person affiliated with the licensed activity to knowingly permit another to disturb, tend to disturb or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous (commotion) offensive or obstreperous (noisy, boisterous) conduct. AKA disturbing the peace. Hmm... city code was made aware of such conduct.

Again, many calls were made not only to Concord PD by City Code during this nine day (night and day event in a residential area) making them aware of all the noise complaints, parking violation and safety violations. City code personnel was put on the interior phone while I was making the complaint and acknowledged how loud the chanting/noise was coming through closed windows and stated no one should have to tolerate that? Mr. Reid-reporter for the Monitor was also put on the same interior phone when he interviewed me and heard the loud noise but that doesn't sell papers so decided on his own that because it was a religious ceremony, that is why everyone objected?

Parking violations as I was told by city code for any event do not allow certain blocking of driveways, sidewalks, fire hydrant, parking on both sides of the road etc,
Fire hydrant code I believe is 15 ft. I supplied City code with over 60 plus complaints in writing via email to city code as well as photos of every one of the violations and still the event was still allowed to go on the full nine days. Complaints were made before the event started, and then every day from the 1st through 9th day and yet, we were basically given a deaf ear.

Police would come and someone would run out the back of the house and tell them police were there and they would momentarily turn down the noise or basically stop chanting, the minute the cop left, the PA system they used would blare louder than before- this went on for days. Why weren't the Concord PD allowed to enforce the city's folllowing MUNICODES: Noise,

disturbing the peace? Certainly, we've been told they had many complaints just on these two subjects.

On Day one we placed no trespassing signs up and when they came to tell my mother they might have guests using her back yard my mother (via my son) told them absolutely not and that she did not want them using her back yard. The police sat right there after signs were posted and when I called him out on it, as people were crossing her yard, he replied- 'well, technically you need the property owner's name and address on your no trespassing signs or they won't hold up in court. So I told him I, worked with F & G and landowners rights groups and published articles about "posting" while executive director for 8 years in my past job and I never came across that requirement. Also confirmed with city code it was not a requirement. Not to mention that when someone is verbally denied access, not once by five times and signs are clearly visible and then while the cop is sitting right in front of my mother's house and witnesses firsthand such trespassing as party goers walk right across a no trespassing yard, they didn't do anything. I then questioned the cop about trespassing when someone verbally has declined access and if that is then considered trespassing, he replied yes. and shrugged.

Ordinance 308.1 Accumulation of rubbish or garbage....trash was being thrown across the street, garbage lined up alongside the abutting property; trashed just thrown on the ground. (We have photos). But apparently all the Monitor commentators can focus on is what horrible neighbors/neighborhood we are for complaining and not being welcoming. Even the councilwoman during yesterday's meeting asked several times," is this because it was a religious ceremony? " Thanks, Monitor once again your twisted reporting slanted a simple noise and the right to complain to be something it never was.

So if the city permit does not include a specific violations sheet and maybe the Concord PD aren't fully aware what is and isn't considered a permit/city ordinance violation or trespassing situation that explains why when they came and did nothing to stop the continuous noise and other safety violations. But that is the whole point here, that this not be allowed to happen again and I'd like the city's explanation as to how concerned citizens rights were not upheld?

So in closing, let's place the blame where it all started and apologize not only to those who complained but to the event holder who now thinks everyone hates them when in fact that was never the problem.

OTHER COMMENTS TO FIX

I think if you remove everything else from the equation and focus on the one big hit here... after a city permit goes over into 9 days, who enforces that? What is supposed to happen? Why didn't it? The police did not want to. So is it then the City's job to follow up on the permit they issued? Who dropped the ball? Why was this ok? And why are some persecuted for so harshly when they violate a permit but others are not?