

Dear Shakopee City Council:

Most of you are already aware of my request to the city to block off part of the alley between Holmes street and Fuller Street adjacent to Babe's Place on Friday evenings between the hours of 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. This is a formal request for permission to do that.

Babe's Place has been having a drawing on Friday evenings at 7:00 PM and the participation in this drawing has exceeded all expectations in that it is bringing hundreds of people to the downtown area. It is an understatement to say that it has been a big boost for all our downtown entertainment businesses. As proud as I am to say that, there is usually more people wanting to participate than can be held inside Babe's Place. Even though Babe's has several exits and a newly installed sprinkler system, the Fire Marshall has determined that maximum capacity is about 350 people. Unfortunately, the crowd size has almost always exceeded this number as of late due to the amount of the drawing jackpot which grows each week if somebody does not win it. As the jackpot grows, so does the amount of people.

This is why I am asking for permission to allow people to be outside my business and still enjoy the fun and excitement that this drawing brings. I feel that having part of the alley blocked off just prior to and after the drawing would not be much of a burden on the city. Also, I want to make it known that I do not expect nor am I asking that I be allowed to do this every Friday from here on because once the drawing is won, the jackpot goes back to a much smaller amount and thus I am not expecting such huge crowds when that happens. I am only asking for permission to block the alley off should the crowds exceed the 350 person capacity. When that happens, I would also like the ability to sell canned beer in the blocked off area by my bartenders. We will not allow anyone to exit the area if they have a beverage...just as if they were inside the building.

I have had a few other entertainment business owners thank me for bringing all these folks to our downtown area on Friday nights. After the drawing is done for the night, a lot of people will visit other bars and restaurants and so I think overall this is a good thing for our city.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me and I will gladly address them. I look forward to hearing from you soon and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Isakson, Proprietor of Babe's Place

952-200-4556

Unrestricted