

To: Frank Robinson[FRobinson@applevalley.org]; Lance Miller[LMiller@applevalley.org]; Dennis Cron[DCron@applevalley.org]; Kathie Martin[KMartin@applevalley.org]
Cc: Julie Gilmer[JGilmer@applevalley.org]
From: Mike Cady
Sent: Tue 6/23/2015 1:42:32 PM
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th
MAIL_RECEIVED: Tue 6/23/2015 1:42:34 PM

Dennis,

Julie and I just met at the amphitheater grassy area. The shade canopy is over a concrete slab. The grass that it is covering actually looks green. Tonight the water will be turned up to help the grass recover. We will keep water on the extra dry areas tomorrow morning as well.

Thanks,

Mike

From: Frank Robinson
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 1:49 PM
To: Lance Miller; Dennis Cron; Kathie Martin; Mike Cady
Cc: Julie Gilmer
Subject: RE: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th

Damn, you're good. I'm thinking you should pursue a career in editorial writing after you retire.

Frank W. Robinson, ICMA-CM

Town Manager

Town of Apple Valley

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From: Lance Miller
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 1:30 PM
To: Dennis Cron; Kathie Martin; Mike Cady
Cc: Frank Robinson; Julie Gilmer
Subject: RE: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th

Alright, if the bus is going to get parked on Lance/Mike then so be it.

But before being hauled away let us make our final statement...

The request comes forth to us (PW) to accommodate these special events at the facility(s) where we're tasked with keeping them maintained in a reasonable, usable, safe and pleasant condition. These special events are crucial to the Town and the community and come from 'places-on-high' with the stamp of importance, thus we make every reasonable (and even some unreasonable) effort to provide for and accommodate every need these events might require, despite our perpetually dwindling resources.

But the simple law of logistics is going to tell you that for as long as you insert 'special event A' you're going to displace 'existing condition B', if you can't displace condition B then event A should not occur, so pick your poison. Square pegs don't fit in round holes but the typical day in PW is almost completely comprised of doing just that so we're used to it. Dennis, this is the second year for this event and I'd venture to say we're still trying to perfect this particular event's square-to-round-peg process. On one hand I'm sure some smart guy once said "Dennis' ever-present complaining/whining was the mother of perfection", but on the other hand perhaps your expectations are slightly elevated.

But ultimately, PW is just the guys maintaining the facility. And we're easy for Dennis to blame. And we've been mandated from 'places-on-high' to reduce the amount of water we use to maintain that facility by 25% even before the event comes along. And we get a summer heat wave and these events can only happen during summer heat waves, it's the law.

And Lance and Mike bear the responsibility (somehow for all of this) and the current system isn't working well. Well, I guess Lance and Mike get out from under the bus (as soon as Dennis will get out of it) and work on fixing the problem.

From: Dennis Cron

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 12:09 PM
To: Kathie Martin; Mike Cady
Cc: Lance Miller; Frank Robinson; Julie Gilmer
Subject: RE: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th

Kathie,

Agreed, and you speak to my point as well. Rannie is not the guy who understands what should or should not happen. He is not sufficiently politically experienced or assigned with appropriate responsibility for these decisions. That falls on Lance and Mike Cady. They need to take responsibility here, because the current system isn't working well. The staff are going to try to do whatever it is that Julie asks and that's all the more reason they need Mike direction first. You need to plan to bring in appropriate seasonal help to grounds to handle hand watering of Brewster or the amphitheater in any upcoming events so this does not happen again. As much as we might like to assign staff to that effort, we simply are running too thin to do that for a week unless we also restrict vacations of staff. That's harder to do, so you might plan to bring in somebody part time for the next event. As far as Brewster and the 4th goes, Julie needs to work with Mike and Mike needs to be involved and take responsibility for the condition of the park, not Rannie.

Dennis

From: Kathie Martin
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 11:49 AM
To: Dennis Cron; Mike Cady
Cc: Lance Miller; Frank Robinson; Julie Gilmer
Subject: RE: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th

I was shocked to see the condition of the grass deteriorate so quickly. It was relayed to us that the bowl of the amphitheater would be managed by hand watering, and not that our plans were likely to kill it. The need to have water turned off for the musical is due to a week of rehearsals with the full sound board set up in the middle of the bowl, with the conduit issue as secondary. I don't know a way around it for that event, because the production company would need full lights and sound for rehearsals, but we can require the production company to shorten their "tech week" when it comes up again next year. When you have a three day event, it already exceeds the two-day target you are looking for.

For Freedom Festival, Julie always works closely with staff – Ronnie in this case – to minimize impact, even down to cycling through irrigation areas manually. The last watering on the north half would need to be Thursday morning as fireworks will be set Thursday afternoon. The boxes will be set the day before, but they can get wet. That area doesn't get the added stress of the crowd walking on it, at least.

The south side of the park can be watered through Friday morning. We'll have some tents and barricades up sooner but they are waterproof. Friday afternoon is when the sound system and other non-waterproof stuff starts coming in.

“Simply need to do a better job”? How about we just keep the lines of communication open and have a conversation when we submit a Service Request. It doesn’t serve our event needs to kill the grass.

Kathie Martin | Town of Apple Valley | Marketing & Public Affairs Officer

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14955 Dale Evans Pkwy. | Apple Valley, CA 92307

From: Dennis Cron

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 11:08 AM

To: Mike Cady

Cc: Lance Miller; Frank Robinson; Kathie Martin

Subject: Watering of turf at Brewster leading up to the 4th

Mike,

I think most people would agree that the Shrek event has severely damaged (if not killed) the turf in the amphitheater. It is my understanding that it occurred because Events requested, and Grounds agreed or was directed to turn the water off in the Park for nearly a full week. This happened to coincide with an unseasonable heat wave. That turf is now in very bad shape, so much so that even an attendee to the musical took the time to send a CRM complaining of having to sit on needles while trying to enjoy the event. We can no longer sacrifice the park for a program scheduled in the amphitheater. Whatever improvements are necessary to the conduits and other infrastructure to prevent having to turn the water off for an extended period needs to be accomplished before the next scheduled event. Let me know what you need to get this fixed for good.

This cannot happen at Brewster either and I want you to know P Wks and Grounds are not authorized to turn off irrigation pursuant to a request from Events in advance of the 4th at Brewster. The expense of doing so, but more importantly, the additional water required to recover these facilities for continued use afterward, “cannot happen”, certainly not during a drought with state mandated water use restrictions. Do not make any operational changes to the irrigation sequence at Brewster that would exceed turning off the irrigation for more than two days unless it is specifically approved and authorized by me or Frank. Events will simply need to do a better job scheduling and coordinating the arrival and set up of the various vendors and suppliers so that their arrival can be more closely controlled to fit within our maintenance needs. Let me know if you have any questions.

Dennis