

## Bar complaints countered by praise

Written by MARK JAEGER

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### Town hopes neighbors, owner of Little Kohler Haus can resolve their differences after show of support

The tone of the discussion was much different last week, when residents told the Town of Fredonia Plan Commission their feelings about the need for restrictions on the Little Kohler Haus.

At two recent town meetings, residents led by Little Kohler resident Jean Lord complained about frequent noise and loud music coming from the bar at 4810 Hwy. H which has long been a popular destination for motorcyclists.

Town officials were swayed by the complaints, with the threat that the bar's liquor license could be at risk if some changes aren't made.

As a different group of neighbors spoke with the Plan Commission last week, they lauded the improvements made at the business since Timothy Trenkle took over as owner several years ago.

Many of the residents refuted the allegation that the entire neighborhood is opposed to the way the bar is operated.

"Little Kohler Haus has become a great place to stop for a bite to eat, especially their Friday fish fry. It is nice to have a place where we can see our neighbors and catch up with what is going on with them," one neighbor said.

Several other residents said they enjoy the live music performed at the bar.

"The biggest problem the Little Kohler Haus has is that it draws customers. Please don't push a successful business out of town," implored a neighbor.

"Jean Lord is not my spokesperson. A tavern has operated at that location for a long, long time. Long before the houses were there," noted another resident.

"To pull the rug out from under the owner would be a grave injustice."

A nextdoor neighbor said patrons of the bar have always been respectful of his property.

Town Chairman Richard Mueller said despite repeated calls from some neighbors to the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department, no citations have been issued at the bar since Trenkle bought the business.

The owner said he has met with a number of the residents and has agreed to make some

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changes that would reduce the apparent conflicts.

“I was amazed at how, after meeting with the neighbors, we were able to fine-tune the complaints down to a few little issues,” Trenkle said.

The commission took no action on imposing restrictions on the bar operation.