

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The city's rush to prohibit street performers from using amplifiers for their acts got muffled a bit Tuesday after several performers spoke against the idea. The amendment to the city code would have forbid amplification of sound on public property and right-of-ways throughout the city.

Facing the second reading of the amendment several performers, including Abby Roach, Sterling Walsh, David Hayes and Julie Mitchell, told the council the new rule would be a violation of free speech. Roach, who heads the Asheville Buskers Collective, said that performers often travel between Knoxville and Asheville to perform. She said that "jumping straight to oppressive regulations is wrong."



PHOTO BY BECKY FERGUSON.

Knoxville Focus columnist Rosie Moore recently released her third book, "Love Anytime." She signed copies at a reception in Fountain City Tuesday night. Pictured with Moore are Knoxville Focus staff and contributors Ray Hill, Marianne Dedmon, Ken Lay, Bill Wright, Steve Hunley, Pete Gawda, Rosie Moore, Rose King, Dr. Jim Ferguson, Ralphine Major and Pam Poe. Not pictured, Steve Williams.

Local writers promote works at