Minutes
Alcoholic Beverage Licensing (ABL) Committee
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting—Held on WebEx

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Committee (“Committee”) of ANC 6A was held commencing at 7:00 pm EST on January 26, 2021, on a publicly posted WebEx event.

Committee Members Present: Nick Alberti (Co-Chair), Mark Samburg (Co-Chair)
Committee Members Absent: None
Commissioners Present: Keya Chatterjee, Robb Dooling, Mike Soderman
Community Members Present: Mona Hatoum, Victor McKoy, Alix Preston, Clive Roberts, Kate Robinson

I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda
   • Mr. Samburg called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, noted the presence of a quorum, and reminded attendees that the meeting was being recorded.
   • Mr. Samburg moved that the agenda be approved, Mr. Albert seconded, and the agenda was approved 5-0.

II. New Business
   • Discussion of a request for support for application for a stipulated license for new establishment at 1378 H Street, NE.
      o Mr. Roberts explained that he intends to open an establishment at 1378 H Street, NE in the space formerly occupied by Rose’s DeJavu.
      o Mr. Samburg asked what kind of establishment Mr. Roberts plans to open, and Mr. Roberts indicated it will be a sit-down bar and lounge that also offers catering. Mr. Roberts indicated that the establishment will have recorded music.
      o Mr. Samburg asked if there was a rough schematic of the layout for the establishment, and Mr. Roberts indicated that the layout will stay similar to that of Rose’s DeJavu.
      o Mr. Alberti asked whether there is a buildout associated with the establishment’s address, and Mr. Roberts indicate there is not.
      o Mr. Samburg asked when Mr. Roberts plans to open, and Mr. Roberts indicated that he would like to open as soon as possible.
      o Mr. Samburg asked what sort of food the establishment intends to offer, and Mr. Roberts indicated it would be bar and grill food.
      o Mr. Samburg asked about the intended hours of operation and service for the establishment, and Mr. Roberts indicated that he is currently planning to be open from 5:00 pm to 1:00 am on weekdays and 5:00 pm to 3:00 am on weekends, with service hours to match.
      o Mr. Roberts noted that he had reviewed a template settlement agreement and was interested in seeking an extension of ANC 6A’s usual summer garden hours to cover the small balcony at the location, which is primarily used for people to step outside for short periods of time.
      o Mr. Roberts noted that he has been involved with business on H Street for 17 years.
Mr. Alberti asked what the establishment’s capacity will be, Mr. Roberts indicated it will be capped at 50.

Mr. Alberti asked what type of license Mr. Roberts is seeking, and Mr. Roberts indicated he is seeking a Tavern license.

Mr. Alberti asked what the balcony capacity is, Mr. Roberts indicated the capacity is 8 people.

Mr. Alberti asked where in the process Mr. Roberts is, and Mr. Roberts indicated that he has not yet been assigned a license specialist by ABRA.

Mr. Alberti asked whether Mr. Roberts will be seeking an entertainment endorsement, and Mr. Roberts indicated he will be.

Mr. Alberti asked what the kitchen hours will be, and Mr. Roberts indicated that the kitchen would close one hour before closing time each day. Mr. Alberti asked whether Mr. Roberts would be amenable to that condition being included in a settlement agreement, and Mr. Roberts indicated he would.

Commissioner Chatterjee asked when Mr. Roberts anticipated opening, and what his plan was to deal with COVID. Mr. Roberts indicated that he planned to open as soon as possible, and would comply with District requirements.

Commissioner Chatterjee asked what the establishment’s plan would be for enforcing the District mask order, and whether Mr. Roberts had considered setting up a Streatery. Mr. Roberts indicated that his door staff would be instructed to ensure that patrons wear masks, and that he would be open to participating in a Streatery, but that the X2 stop directly in front of the establishment currently precludes it.

Commissioner Dooling noted that multiple establishments on H Street have had a hard time getting Streatery approvals because of DDOT.

Mr. Alberti moved that the ABL recommend that the ANC authorize the co-chairs of the ABL to negotiate a settlement agreement for the new establishment with Mr. Roberts and to provide support for a stipulated license upon completion of an agreement and receipt and review of a satisfactory placard consistent with the discussion during the meeting. Mr. Samburg seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Discussion of additional conforming changes to template settlement agreements identified while making updates as identified at December meeting.

Mr. Samburg moved that the Committee address the additional changes by moving through them in sequence, and allowing commissioners and committee members to raise objections to any given change with the understanding that if anyone objected, the change would be discussed separately. Commissioner Soderman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners and committee moved through the identified changes in the redlined templates. No objections were raised to the new changes.

Commissioner Dooling identified that one or more provisions referring to prohibitions on loitering would need to be removed if the ANC elected to eliminate the requirement that establishments ask loiterers to move on.

Mr. Samburg moved that all of the changes discussed be treated as approved by the ABL as recommendations to the ANC under the motion made to the ANC in January; that Mr. Samburg and Mr. Alberti be authorized to identify additional provisions pertaining to loitering that would need to be considered by the ANC as part of the consideration of possibly removing the provision requiring establishments to ask loiterers to move on; and that Mr. Samburg and Mr. Alberti be authorized to make other technical changes (i.e. spelling, spacing, and
numbering corrections) as needed, and have those changes treated as approved by the ABL as recommendations to the ANC under the motion made to the ANC in January. Commissioner Soderman seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

III. Adjourn
• The Committee adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Next meeting date: February 23, 2021, 7:00 pm.