

Minutes
Alcoholic Beverage Licensing (ABL) Committee
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting—Held on Zoom

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Committee (“Committee”) of ANC 6A was held commencing at 7:00 pm on March 23, 2021, on a publicly posted WebEx event.

Committee Members Present: Nick Alberti (Co-Chair), Mark Samburg (Co-Chair), Mona Hatoum
Committee Members Absent: Kate Robinson

Community Members: Chander Jayaraman (New Establishment), Emmanuel Irono (New Establishment), Ogay Irono (New Establishment), Paul Mowbray (New Establishment), Anna Scudiero, Ben Stratton, Christopher Downie, Elizabeth O’Gorek, Kyle Southern, Larry Janezich, Madeline Stratton, Michael Harding, Rachel Mackey, Rosalind Carney, Sage Bauer, Theresa DiPeppe, Renee Dworakowski.

Commissioners Present: Mike Soderman, Brian Alcorn

I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

- Mr. Samburg called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm, noted the presence of a quorum, and reminded attendees that the meeting was being recorded. Mr. Samburg moved that the agenda be approved, Commissioner Soderman seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

II. New Business

- Discussion of a potential future application for a license by an unspecified establishment at 1500 East Capitol Street NE.
 - Mr. Chander Jayaraman presented information about the establishment and noted that the establishment is currently seeking sidewalk café approval and an occupancy permit. Mr. Jayaraman noted that the establishment will be seeking a Class C restaurant license with a sidewalk café endorsement and potentially an entertainment endorsement.
 - Mr. Samburg noted that the establishment would need to return to an ABL meeting after ABRA placarding.
 - Commissioner Alcorn noted his support for the establishment and noted that the TPS committee would also need to be involved.
 - Commissioner Soderman noted his support for the establishment.
 - Mr. Alberti asked who the license-holder would be. Mr. Jayaraman noted that it would be the TIS foundation. Mr. Alberti asked what specific person would be identified, and Dr. Irono and Mr. Jayaraman indicated that would be determined. Mr. Alberti asked who the officers of the foundation are and Dr. Irono identified them.
 - Mr. Alberti asked who would manage the day-to-day operations of the establishment. Dr. Irono indicated that it would be determined.
 - Ms. Hatoum indicated support for the establishment, pending appropriate reviews.
 - A community member asked what Mr. Jayaraman’s role was. Mr. Jayaraman indicated he was a representative of RIS.

- A community member asked whether the establishment would have vegetarian options. Mr. Jayaraman indicated that it would, and encouraged the community member to contact him about specifics.
 - Several community members expressed support for the establishment.
 - A member of the community asked whether a license is issued to an establishment or an address. Mr. Alberti indicated that licenses are issued to establishments, and can be sold/transferred.
 - A community member asked whether granting a license to this establishment would affect ABRA's willingness to grant licenses to other establishments in the neighborhood. Mr. Alberti indicated that it would not.
 - Commissioner Alcorn noted that members of the community could contact Mr. Jayaraman. Mr. Jayaraman shared his contact information ().
 - Mr. Alberti asked when construction would be completed. Mr. Mowbray indicated that construction should be done in 4-6 weeks.
 - Commissioner Alcorn reminded Mr. Jayaraman that there would be additional questions at a future ABL meeting and potentially at a TPS meeting.
- Finalization of and discussion of delivery of a letter from the ANC to all ABRA licensees within ANC 6A.
 - Mr. Samburg described the issue and recommended that the ABL consider possible means of delivering the letter without using USPS.
 - Mr. Alberti noted the need to update the list of licensees and addresses. Mr. Samburg and Mr. Alberti agreed to update the list, Ms. Hatoum and Mr. Samburg agreed to use the updated list to compile addresses.
 - Mr. Samburg noted that he would not support any method of delivery that required anyone to make physical deliveries unless those individuals were truly volunteering. Commissioner Alcorn agreed.
 - Commissioner Alcorn asked about the number of letters that would need to be delivered/sent and the total cost to deliver by mail. Mr. Samburg noted that the original motion to the ANC was for up to \$150, and noted that he would not expect the cost to exceed \$100.
 - Mr. Alberti noted that he believes mail is the only option to deliver this letter.
 - Mr. Alberti and Mr. Samburg indicated that 70 establishments was a reasonable estimate, and that cost would therefore be under \$150 and probably under \$100.
 - Ms. Hatoum noted that in addition to a physical letter, she would still support an email to those establishments for whom an email address is available. Mr. Samburg and Mr. Alberti agreed.
 - Mr. Samburg asked whether anyone had alternative approaches that might allow for delivery, and noted that he did not believe such an alternative existed and that he did not think the expenditure was sufficient to disrupt ANC operations.
 - A community member asked for an explanation of the removal of loitering provisions from ANC 6A's settlement agreement. Mr. Samburg explained the recent revisions and the ABL and ANC votes to communicate those revisions to licensees.
 - Commissioner Alcorn mentioned that costs could be reduced by using postcards. Mr. Samburg volunteered to look into the cost and viability of doing so.
 - Commissioner Alcorn noted that the letter could be shortened to point to an online letter.

- Ms. Dworakowski noted that posting such a letter to the website was possible, and observed that the ANC could also tweet to establishments.
- Mr. Samburg moved that the ABL recommend that the ANC authorize the initial expenditure as proposed last month of up to \$150, with the understanding that the ABL does not believe a viable alternative exists to using the mail. Ms. Hatoum seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 (Commissioner Soderman not present).

III. Adjourn

The Committee adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Next meeting date: April 27, 2021, 7:00 pm.