

Minutes
Alcoholic Beverage Licensing (ABL) Committee
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting via 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 ET on April 25, 2023, on a publicly posted Zoom event.

Committee Members Present: Erin Sullivan, Kara Hughley, Joe Krisch, Erin Blumenthal
Commissioners Present: Robb Dooling, Mike Velasquez
Establishment Representatives Present: Stephen Hessler (Gallery O), Sean Morris (Kitchen Cray), Opal Scott (Kitchen Cray), Sudon Williams (Kitchen Cray), Juliana McGuire (Kitchen Cray)

- I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes
 - Chair Erin Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
 - The agenda was approved without objection.
 - The minutes from the March 28, 2023 meeting of the Committee were approved without objection.

- II. Community Comment
 - Chair Sullivan asked if any members of the community in attendance wanted to make any comments not related to one of the establishments on the agenda. There were no comments.

- III. New Business
 - Discussion of application by Gallery O, LLC t/a Gallery O on H at 1354 H Street NE (ABRA-094849) for renewal of its Class C Multipurpose License.
 - Mr. Stephen Hessler appeared on behalf of the applicant and provided an overview of the establishment’s operations.
 - Committee member Kara Hughley moved that the Committee recommend that the ANC take no action with regard to the license application of Gallery O on H.
 - Committee member Blumenthal seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

 - Discussion of request by KitchenCray H LLC t/a Kitchen Cray at 1301 H St. NE (ABRA-113864) for a stipulation while its application for a substantial change to its license is pending.
 - Committee Chair Sullivan explained that Kitchen Cray is requesting a 45-day stipulated license to operate pursuant to the substantial change they will be seeking to their license. The placard will be publicly posted on April 28, 2023 and that will start the 45-day clock on the protest period. She indicated that the Committee is taking up whether to recommend that the ANC support the stipulated license; if not, the license will not be issued.
 - Mr. Sudon Williams appeared on behalf of Kitchen Cray. He indicated that they acquired the lower-level space over two years ago with the intention of adding an overflow dining space and a speakeasy. He stated that Kitchen Cray is seeking a tavern license, so that they can remain open without serving food. He stated that they have been in the build-out process over the last year and a

half and, now that it is finished, they need to utilize the space in order to cover costs. In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Williams indicated that the license would cover the whole building - Kitchen Cray upstairs and Flight downstairs - and they are also seeking an entertainment endorsement.

- Commissioner Mike Velasquez shared that he has had several discussions in the past with Mr. Williams about incidents and Mr. Williams has addressed them. He also indicated that Mr. Williams held a community meeting last year and is planning another.
- Mr. Williams stated that Kitchen Cray wants to do everything they can to be good neighbors, and he has shared his phone number and email to address issues in real time. He also stated that there is a community dinner scheduled tomorrow and they have also done a community block party clean-up. He also hired Mr. Opal Scott, who was on the call, to help with training staff, addressing noise pollution, and engaging with residents to get things taken care of immediately.
- Many members of the community spoke up on the call to raise concerns about issues they have had with Kitchen Cray, including with respect to communication, parking, and behavior of staff and patrons, among other things, and to express their opposition to the request for a stipulated license.
- Committee member Erin Blumenthal moved that the Committee recommend that the ANC not support Kitchen Cray's request for a stipulated license. Chair Sullivan seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed 5-1, with Commissioner Dooling voting against the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.