

Minutes
Alcoholic Beverage Licensing (ABL) Committee
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 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 EST on July 26, 2022, on a publicly posted Zoom event.

Committee Members Present: Mona Hatoum (Chair), Joe Krisch, Ian Stanford, Erin Sullivan, Mike Velasquez

Commissioners Present: Robb Dooling (6A06)

Establishment Representatives Present: Keem Hughley and Sidon Yohannes (Bronze DC)

- I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes
 - Ms. Mona Hatoum called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
 - The minutes from the last meeting of the Committee were approved without objection.
 - The agenda for the meeting was reordered without objection to consider the application of Bronze DC first.

- II. Community Comment
 - No members of the community spoke at this segment of the meeting.

- III. New Business
 - Discussion of application Bronze DC, LLC t/a Bronze DC at 1245 H St. NE (ABRA-121843) for a Class C Restaurant License.
 - Mr. Keem Hughley and Ms. Sidon Yohannes appeared on behalf of the establishment.
 - Mr. Hughley mentioned that he has lived in the immediate neighborhood since he was born and is a partner with Chef Erik Bruner-Yang at Maketto.
 - Bronze has applied for entertainment both indoors and outdoors. There is no intention at this point to have regular entertainment outdoors, but they do want the flexibility to have outdoor entertainment for specific events in the future.
 - The establishment has applied for an entertainment endorsement. The intention is to have a DJ, not live music. There are no plans for a dance floor, although the establishment would like the flexibility to create a dance floor if requested for a special event like a wedding. Mr. Hughley also clarified that there are no plans to have a regular DJ during meal service, but rather a desire for the flexibility to have a DJ for special events.
 - The plan for the summer gardens is to have a two-level, attractively constructed “four seasons room” that is enclosed to protect against the weather and to provide noise mitigation. There will be no space that is fully outdoors and uncovered.
 - In response to a question from Committee Member Mike Velasquez, Mr. Hughley noted that the four seasons room (which Ms. Yohannes shared at the meeting), is a significant investment by Bronze specifically intended to protect the close-situated residences from noise.

- In response to a question from Mr. Velasquez about parking, Mr. Hughley responded that the establishment is giving a lot of thought to parking, including potentially retaining a valet.
 - In response to a question from Ms. Hatoum regarding trash, Mr. Hughley noted that he has a good deal of experience with the trash issues in the neighborhood due to his role at Maketto. He noted that there is a trash compactor that is not in use behind the Bronze building and neighboring establishments, and his plan to is to bring the compactor back into service rather than rely on traditional covered dumpsters. Bronze has developed plans to mitigate trash and rodent issues in the public space near the restaurant, including the alley behind it, and intends to work in a cooperative manner with the adjoining establishments to implement these plans for the benefit of the neighborhood.
 - Finally, with regard to security, Mr. Hughley stated that Bronze plans to have a full camera and security system, informed by research Mr. Hughley and Mr. Bruner-Yang undertook following vandalism at Maketto in 2020. Bronze intends to have a 24-hour surveillance security system.
 - Mr. Ian Stanford moved that the ABL Committee recommend that ANC 6A protest the license application unless a Settlement Agreement is reached prior to the protest deadline, and that the Chair and Vice Chair of the ANC, as well as the Co-Chairs of the ABL Committee and Mr. Velasquez, represent the ANC in the negotiation of the Settlement Agreement. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.
- Discussion of application by DC Conscious Café LLC t/a DC Conscious Café at 1413 H St. NE (ABRA-088623) for renewal of its Class D Restaurant License.
 - No representative appeared on behalf of DC Conscious Café.
 - The Committee discussed that the establishment's current Settlement Agreement (SA) has outdated language and other applicants have been asked to enter new SAs with the current language.
 - The Committee also discussed that the desire of the Committee for updated language is not tied to problems or complaints particular to the establishment.
 - Mr. Stanford moved that the ABL Committee recommend that ANC 6A update the Settlement Agreement to reflect the current standard agreement for the ANC, and that the Chair and Vice Chair of the ANC and Commissioner Robb Dooling, as well as the Co-Chairs of the ABL Committee, be authorized to represent the ANC in the negotiation of the Settlement Agreement. Mr. Velasquez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.
- Discussion of application by Chupacabra, LLC t/a Chupacabra at 822 H St. NE (ABRA-092662) for renewal of its Class C Restaurant License.
 - No representative appeared on behalf of Chupacabra.
 - A neighbor of the establishment recently complained regarding loud music from the establishment after 10 pm. that did not abate despite the neighbor reaching out directly and repeatedly to the establishment. The neighbor then reached out to Commissioner Keya Chatterjee, who forwarded the complaint to the ABL Committee.
 - Mr. Stanford moved that the ABL Committee recommend that ANC 6A protest the license renewal application unless an updated Settlement Agreement is reached prior to the protest date, and that the Chair and Vice Chair of the

ANC, as well as the Co-Chairs of the ABL Committee, represent the ANC in the negotiation of the Settlement Agreement. Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.