

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) ABC Committee  
Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** May 6, 2025

**Location:** 700 Pennsylvania Ave second floor and via Zoom

**Chair:** Ellen Oppen-Weiner - Present

**Attendees:** Committee Members Present –Gerald “Jerry” Sroufe Commissioner 6B02, David Sobelsohn Commissioner 6B03, Samuel Pastore Commissioner 6B05, Edward Ryder ANC Chair 6B08, Margare “Maggie” Strouse Resident Member 6B09, Katherine a member of the public, Jonathan Levy Resident Member 6B07, Michael McMullan Resident Member 6B04 Alternate voting, Chander Jayaraman Resident Member 6B06 (late arrival)

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## **1. Aqua al 2 Protest Update**

- Hearing will be extended. May 20<sup>th</sup> or May 21<sup>st</sup>
- ANC 6B05 will provide five witnesses: Andrew Petro, David Escobar, Girard Brown (rat control expert), and Marian Connolly, Susan Sedgewick.
- Public participation in the protest was discussed. Maggie inquired about how community members can join.
- A YouTube link to view proceedings was shared in the meeting chat.
- Outstanding issues noted by David: rats, noise, hours of operation, cleanliness, and use of the ten-foot alley.
- Jerry asked about neighbors’ ability to protest; Ellen clarified that five neighbors have already filed a protest.

## **2. Tobacco King Update (500 Block of 8th Street)**

- Case dismissed on April 14 after applicant failed to appear at the roll call hearing.
  - Ellen and David raised the issue of over-concentration on 8<sup>th</sup> Street SE of similar business.
  - **Action:** Question of over- concentration referred to committee for further study. Will be added to the next meeting agenda.
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## **3. License Renewals**

### **a. La Plaza (License #30)**

- Carlos Ventura (manager) in attendance. Jerry noted no issues.
- **Motion:** Recommend approval for consent agenda.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

### **b. 1 Congress Market**

- No representative present.
- **Motion:** Recommend approval for consent agenda.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

#### c. We The Pizza

- Ongoing complaints noted by Sam and Ellen, but no complainants present.
- **Motion:** Recommend approval.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

#### d. Santa Rosa Taqueria

- Neighbor complaints and health department involvement noted. (trash)
- Discussion on whether to invite them to a future meeting.
- **Motion:** Take no action at this time.  
**Vote:** No formal vote taken; consensus to delay action and gather more information.

#### e. Café 8

- Nearby neighbor, Karen, provided detailed concerns about public safety and parking.
- Katherine recommended pushing back the hearing to improve the agreement.
- **Motion 1 (David):** Recommend ANC oppose renewal and work with applicant to fix issues.  
**Vote:** 5-3-0
- **Motion 2 (David - amended):** Recommend not to support application and reach out to applicant.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

#### f. Good Stuff Eatery

- David proposed no action and to monitor complaint resolution. (trash)
- **Motion:** Take no position.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

#### g. Ted's Bulletin

- Katherine raised several violations including failure to clean, alley blockage, and generator use.
- **Motion (Katherine):** Recommend ANC protest renewal.  
**Vote:** 10-0-0 (Unanimous)

#### h. Playa Ocho

- Concerns about rooftop entertainment and noise.
- Katherine asked to oppose just the entertainment endorsement.

- **Motion (David, amended by Sam):** Oppose renewal based on noise; urge applicant to meet with ANC; request hearing extension.

**Vote on Amendment:** 10-0-0

**Vote on Motion:** 10-0-0

**i. Remaining 6B03 Licenses (Ambar, Sushi Hachi, Matchbox, Ugly Mug, Jab We Wet Indian)**

- David moved to take no position on the remaining renewals.
- **Chander noted that Ambar (a bar) is not complying with its settlement agreement,** and that **ABCA is not enforcing the terms.** Chander to write to invite them to the ANC meeting/ description of the problem.
- The other establishments — **Sushi Hachi** (a restaurant), **Matchbox**, **Ugly Mug**, and **Jab We Wet Indian** — were not individually discussed but were included in the group motion.
- Katherine stated she needs to step back from this portion of the discussion. Chander offered to help with outreach emails and confirmed that a contact list already exists.
- **Motion (David):** Take no position.  
**Vote:** 8-1-1 (Maggie opposed, 1 abstention)

**j. Mass Consent Renewals**

- Remaining items moved to consent via slate:
    - Sonoma
    - Belga Café
    - Han Palace
    - Hill Center
    - Akeno Sushi Bar and Thai at Capitol Hill
    - National Democratic Club
    - Talay Thai Restaurant
    - Le Pain Quotidien
    - Los Caballeros Restaurant
    - Mr. Henry's
    - Ruta Ukrainian Restaurant
    - Fogler Shakespeare Library
    - La Casina DC
    - La Lomita Restaurant
    - Capitol Hill Club
    - Butterworth's
    - District Taco
    - Historic Congressional Cemetery
  - Maggie moved to recommend all eligible renewals to consent agenda.
  - **Motion (Maggie):** Recommend mass consent renewal.  
**Vote:** 9-1-0
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#### 4. Taste Budz (Cannabis Establishment)

- Concerns about compliance and community impact.
  - **Motion (Maggie):** Recommend denial of license until hearing deadline extended and applicant appears before ANC.
  - **Amendment (Edward):** Approve stipulated license in the interim.
  - **Vote on Amendment:** 10-0-0
  - **Vote on Full Motion with Amendment:** 8-2-0
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#### 5. Other Business

- Discussion on ABCA lists and standardization issues. Ellen to request updated license lists.
- Katherine suggested form letter templates for outreach.
- Chander noted the existence of a contact list and offered to assist with communications.

**Adjournment:**