



## **ANC 6B Alcoholic Beverage & Cannabis Committee Meeting**

**April 1, 2025**

Minutes Draft

### Attendees

- Ellen Oppenheimer, Chair of the Committee
- Commissioner Pastore, Vice Chair of the Committee
- Commissioner Sroufe
- Commissioner Hughes
- Commissioner Krebs
- Commissioner Sobelsohn
- Resident Member Chuck Burger
- Resident Member Chander Jayaraman
- Resident Member Maggie Strouse
- Resident Member Michael McMullan
- Andrew and Susanna Petro, Neighbors of Acqua AI 2
- Billy Walls owner of Bullfeathers
- Faisal owner of Paraiso
- Resident Member Amy Emmet
- Resident Member Marian Connelly

### 2. Update on Tobacco King(t/a ALOHA)

ANC was told that Complaint against Tobacco King was rejected because they were legally allowed to sell cannabis before they received their license, until March 31, 2025. There is another Complaint filed because there is the question about whether they were too close to an existing Montessori Preschool nearby in the same alley.

Chair Oppenheimer requested that Commissioner Sobelsohn call Tobacco King to tell them we are concerned about their lack of involvement with the ANC. The Roll Call Hearing is scheduled on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2025.

### 3. Update on Acqua AI 2

Today was the mediation. Changes were made, and overall Chair Oppenheimer and the applicant both said that it went well.

The Status Hearing is on April 9th and the Protest Hearing is on May 7th

Chair Oppenheimer cannot speak about the case, since any case in mediation is confidential.

The Petros made it clear that as a protest of 5 they would like to see Settlement Agreements when they are written.

#### 4. Renewals

- Bullfeathers: Billy Walls was representing the Establishment in person
  - They have had rats in the past and they have had neighbors that would let rats nest in their trees and on their property. In the past they have had a meeting as a block and everyone has jumped in and the rodent issue has improved.
  - The trash people will sometimes not pick up the trash if the alley is blocked. There was a letter from a constituent about trash going over to the other side of the street. On their patio, Bullfeathers only uses linens and glass. They use no paper other than receipts to prevent these issues .
  - There is an empty building on the block and no one knows what is happening inside. It most likely houses a lot of rats.
  - There is also a tree in front of Bullfeathers that is as safe haven for rats.
  - We recommended that they work with the rodent contact at the department of health, Gerard Brown, and Patty from the BID.
- Paraiso: Faisal was representing the Establishment virtually
  - They bought the restaurant in 2022 and they had a sound engineering company come for a noise analysis. It was found to be below threshold and they have had no complaints for over 2 years.
- American Legion
  - No Concerns
- Trattoria Alberto
  - No Concerns
- Aatish on the Hill
  - No Concerns
- Sanphan Thai
  - No Concerns

Chuck Burger mentioned that there is a way to check if complaints have been brought against a restaurant. The consensus was that it is not a bad idea to file Complaints if there are problems with the Licensee. There has not been a tradition within the ANC for making regular Complaints to ABRA.

- Young Chow
  - No Concerns
- Pineapple and Pearls
- Rose's Luxury
- Little Pearl
  - No Concerns

- I Egg You
  - In their Settlement Agreement, they agreed to take trash indoors overnight.
  - That has not been working and Katherine Szafran has raised complaints about trash. She is a resident member of the committee and a resident of the block. She can speak with them about moving their trash indoors at the end of the day.
  - Commissioner Sobelsohn placed **a motion to make no recommendation at the full ANC meeting.**
    - An amendment was made by Vice Chair Pastore to **talk to Katherine and have her speak with the Applicant. If nothing gets resolved, then we can change to a protest.** It was seconded by Chuck Burger
  - The final vote was 6-0-2
- Chiko
  - No concerns
- Torai Grill and Sushi
  - No Concerns
- The Duck and The Peach
  - When we invited them to the meeting, they responded with some ideas for us to help bring foot traffic to their restaurant
- Bombay Street Food 2
  - No Concerns
- Extra Fancy
  - No Concerns

## 5. Review of ANC 6B License Application Review Process

Should we require every establishment to attend our meetings, if we are discussing them?

Commissioner Sobelsohn raised that we could automatically protest their case if they do not show up. Some ANCs function in that manner.

RM Burger mentioned that establishments might refuse to cooperate with the ANC and that is not a road that we need to go down.

There was a conversation about who gets to see the SA at what stage and what is standard protocol?

Ellen: The draft takes untold hours. She spoke to neighbors and listened to what they had to say, reviewed the past Settlement Agreements for this property, and other Settlement Agreements for Establishments on the block. She noted that the immediate neighbors of an Establishment have bigger concerns and also a better understanding of the issues. Jerry Sroufe believes that we should see a final copy of the Settlement Agreement before we vote. For the writing of the Acqua Al 2 SA, Ellen did not use a

template. She was confirmed on Feb 11th and came into a case that had already started. She was familiar enough to write the SA. These dates come up quickly and a final document might not be available until the end of the review process.

The License Application Review Process document needs to address preparation of the first draft of the Settlement Agreement. We'll schedule its review at the next ABC Committee meeting

Commissioner Pastore motioned to adjourn. Chuck Burger seconded