



Alcohol Beverage Control Committee Meeting

700 Penn Building

Ground Floor Conference Room

April 4, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

REPORT

Attendance:

Commissioners: Jayaraman (Chair); Waud, Sroufe, Oldenburg, Samolyk
Resident Members: Szafran; Palace; Santra; Opper-Weiner

1. Approval of the Agenda (1 min) [Szafran; Palace 2nd] Pass 7-0-0

2. Renewal Application

- BRA-088497: Best Food International, Inc., Young Chow Asian Restaurant; 312 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Applicant: Annie Chen; Protest Deadline: 04/29/2019 [6B01]

No neighbor complaints

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Samolyk; Oldenburg 2nd] Pass 8-0

- ABRA-092791: District Taco, LLC, District Taco; 656 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Applicant: Chris Medhurst; Protest Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B02]

Chris Medhurst, Manager for all. Sometimes they cannot serve alcohol. Why?

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Chander; Sroufe 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-026739: Sizzling Express III, Inc., Sizzling Express; 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Applicant: Gary Hang; Protest Deadline: 04/29/2019 [6B02]

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Sroufe; Oldenburg 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-104786: The Pretzel Bakery, LLC, The Pretzel Bakery; 257 15th St SE, #A; Applicant: Sean Haney; Protest Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B08]

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Chander; Santra 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-000793: National Democratic Club Inc., National Democratic Club; 30 Ivy St SE; Class "CR" Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: Marlana Navarro; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B01]

Marlana Navarro; Chris Colley- Separate from DCCC and DNC but operation within the building;

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Samolyk; Sroufe 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-080550: Chontong, LLC, Sanaphan Thai Cuisine; 653 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class "CR" Restaurant License Renewal; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B02]

Pest Control twice per month.

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Sroufe; Opper-Weiner 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-085618: Nooshi Capitol Hill, Inc., Nooshi Capitol Hill; 524 8th St SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B04]

George Downie nooshicapitalhill@yahoo.com

There has been a decline in business because of the 400 block of 8th Street and the trash and filth on the block which makes people uncomfortable to go past that block.

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Oldenburg; Szafran 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-060779: Eurochef, LLC, Belga Café; 514 8th St SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: Bart; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B04]

Stop adding restaurants on the street; diversify the street; Signed a 15 year lease; Small business should be about \$40 to \$60 per sq. ft.; Insurance is currently based on revenue generated from alcohol sales.

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda [Oldenburg; Sroufe 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-089616: ANB 623, LLC, Beuchert’s Saloon; 623 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B02]

Chris—Store trash in garage owned by Bourbon Coffee which is next door. There is another empty garage that is wide open and used for loitering by homeless

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda [Sroufe; Palace 2nd] Pass 8-0-1

- ABRA-107792: Danny Boy LLC, Little Pearl; 921 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: Don Silverman; Petition Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B04]

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda [Oldenburg; Palace 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-090884: Rose’s 1 LLC, Rose’s Luxury; 717 8th St SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: Don Silverman; Petition Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B03]

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Chander; Santra] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-098700: Elaine’s One LLC, Pineapple and Pearls; 715 8th St SE; Applicant: Don Silverman; Protest Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B03]

Would be supportive of the compactor program but wants to read more and discuss further.

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda. [Chander; Santra] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-008946: Trattoria Alberto Inc., Trattoria Alberto; 504 8th ST SE; Applicant: Ramon & Ernesto Buruca; Protest Deadline: 04/22/2019 [6B04];

Been in operation 17 years. Having problems with District Soul Food about Cigar smoke; cooking odors coming through the walls on the lower level. Had a cloud of smoke .

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application with not changes to the existing SA and place on the **Consent** Agenda [Oldenburg; Samolyk] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-104232: Joselito, LLC, Casa de Comidas; 660 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Applicant: Javier Candon; Protest Deadline: 05/06/2019 [6B02]

Name Change Amendment is needed;

Motion to recommend approval of the renewal application *pending the receipt of a signed amendment to the existing SA and place it on the **Consent** agenda* [Sroufe; Szafran 2nd] Pass 9-0

- ABRA-112072: District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge L.L.C. District Soul Food; 500 8th St SE; Class “CR” Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: David Rountree; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B04]

Concerns/Issues

1. Noise from live music. Applicant stated that they have purchased windows but are having issues with historic about replacing windows with double pane windows with are reported to have a sound reducing shield. They need to file application with HPO to install the windows. Szafran provided a possible faster options which were additional internal windows. Applicant asked HPO what types of windows would be acceptable to which HPO provided DSF with window replacement options. DSF will provide information about the windows and Kirsten will, to the extent possible, assist through advice and guidance with gaining approval to replace windows the existing exterior windows. They intend to start by replacing E Street side windows first though noise complaints have been coming from both the 700 and the 800 blocks of E Streets, SE.

Windows left open with band playing. Residents report that music and noise are being heard late into the night. Applicant states that no band that has ever played at DSF has played music past 11 pm on any night of the week. Applicant has installed sound absorbing curtains over all windows on the E Street side of the street as well as using high back booths by the windows. Szafran—Noise issues are made worse due to the widows at the Establishment being left open during performances. Applicant stated that the AC had stopped working and were only able to have it replaced with a new AC unit on 4/3/19. Windows will not be open any more.

Neighbors claim that customers coming out of DSF are loitering in the area by their vehicles for an extended period of time and are not making excessive noise which is disruptive to sleeping residents. DR noted that he has witnessed a lot of young people loitering but these are not the typical DSF customers who are older, more mature, and do not hang out on neighborhood streets. DR has noticed young people who are bar hopping between establishments and specifically mentioned Café 8 as one of the stopping locations.

Ellen—What is establishment doing to mitigate noise by customers? They encourage customers to keep their voices to a reasonable level as they are exiting the restaurant late at night and after the concert. DSF has agreed to place a sign on the interior of the establishment visible to exiting patrons.

Concerns about the use of the E Street door for other than emergencies.

Chander Note: Check with FEMS about signage that can be placed on E Street Door to designate is as an emergency exit only. DSF has agreed to not allow employees to use that door.

2. Trash Management and trash cans left outside. Applicant reported that they were having issues with their current trash pickup company missing pickups and are looking to switch to another. On weekends, Applicant personally transports trash from the Establishment to trash dumps in VA. Applicant claims that these are infrequent occurrences, but several neighbors made statements to the alternate and brought pictures showing cans left on the side of the building. Applicant worked with the ANC to incorporate an indoor trash room during the renovation of the premises and agreed to exclusively utilize the trash room for storing garbage, trash and receptacles.
3. Cigar Smoke & Food Odors— The owner of Trattoria Alberto provided a statement and comments in regard to this concern which are captured in the notes above. DSF owner did not have the information



to answer the committee's questions because the cigar lounge was the purview of another establishment partner. The Chair asked the owner to invite his business partner and counsel to attend the ANC meeting and come prepared to present documentation from DOH and DCRA that the cigar lounge is operating with the requisite approvals and meet District standards. This will be the focus of the discussion about this case and will be continued at the full ANC meeting on Tuesday, April 9.

NO SHOWS:

- ABRA-085100: Bullfeathers, LLC, Bullfeathers; 410 1st St SE; Protest Deadline: 05/13/2019 [6B01]
- ABRA-086529: Good Food, LLC, Lavagna; 539 8th St SE; Applicant: Stephen Cheung, stjopey@gmail.com; Protest Deadline: 04/29/2019 [6B03]
- ABRA-060422: La Goulu, Inc., Montmartre/7th Hill; 327 7th ST SE; Applicant: Christopher Raynal, montmartredc@hotmail.com; Protest Deadline: 04/22/2019 [6B02]
- ABRA-025153: Al-Hamd Incorporated, Atish on the Hill; 609 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class "CR" Restaurant License Renewal; Applicant: 05/13/2019 [6B02]

RESCHEDULED CASES:

- ~~ABRA-100249: Colorado & Cohen LLC, Bullfrog Bagels; 317 7th ST SE; Applicant: Jeremiah Cohen, coh@gmail.com; Protest Deadline: 04/22/2019 [6B02] [defer protest petition deadline to June 17, 2019]~~