



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6B  
ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WebEx Meeting  
January 5, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

**REPORT**

**Recording of the January 2023 ABC Committee Meeting:**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/webappng/sites/dcnet/recording/7345311b6f82103bbb7f005056814104/playback>

**I. Introductions**

Attendance: Commissioners Jayaraman (Chair / 6B06), Jerry Sroufe (6B02), David Sobelsohn (6B03), Kasie Durkit (6B05), and Edward Ryder (6B09);

Resident Members: Katherine Szafran; George Holman; Ellen Opper-Weiner;

**II. Old Business**

1. ABRA-123471: RRG Catering, LLC, Rose's at Home, 721 8th St. SE; New Class "B" Internet Retailer selling beer and wine online only for off-premises consumption; Applicant: Don and Aaron Silverman, [djsilverman4@gmail.com](mailto:djsilverman4@gmail.com), [aaron@rosesrestaurantgroup.com](mailto:aaron@rosesrestaurantgroup.com); Protest Deadline: 01/30/23 [6B03]

The Chair presented the case and shared background information including that:

- ANC 6B approved a stipulated license for the Applicant at the December meeting;
- The ABC Committee was now considering the officially placarded application for RRG Catering.

Committee discussion covered the following points:

- The application was a formal license to offer internet sales to complement their successful catering business.
- To a question about the basis of support for the stipulated license, Chair explained that the application was an effort by the Applicant to complement their food offerings with paired beers, wines, or other beverages.
- Applicant and ANC 6B have a Board approved Settlement Agreement (SA) in place;
- The owners / operators are well-respected operators of other restaurants in the Barracks Row area of ANC 6B;

MOTION: Recommend that the ANC support this application making not changes to the existing SA and place it on the Consent Agenda (Sobelsohn / Opper-Weiner 2<sup>nd</sup>) Motion Passed 8-0-0.

2. [LATE BREAKING] ABRA-120833: Ginza BBQ Lounge, LLC, t/a Ginza BBQ Lounge and Karaoke Spot, 526 8th Street SE; Renewal of Retailer's Class "CT" Tavern License; Applicant: Risaa Hirao, [rhirao@pascalweiss.com](mailto:rhirao@pascalweiss.com); Petition Deadline 01/17/23 [6B04]

The Chair presented the case and shared background information including that:

- The Tavern License for this Establishment was approved by ANC 6B at the June 2022 meeting.

- The Applicant is stated that ABRA misplaced their renewal paperwork and were recently notified by ABRA that the Applicant needed to go through the renewal process as all other Tavern license holders.
- The Applicant did not start operating until November and have only been able to open the private Karaoke rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Applicant stated that because of the holidays, business has been “Ok” but are hoping for more business in the Spring

MOTION: Recommend that the ANC support the renewal application, make not changes to the existing SA, and place it on the Consent Agenda (Jayaraman / Sroufe 2<sup>nd</sup>) Motion Passed 8-0-0.

### III. New Business

1. ABRA-123546: The Italian Job LLC d/b/a Pacci’s Trattoria, 106 13th Street, SE: Request for a New Class “CR” Restaurant License with a total capacity of 85 people. Hours of Operation, Sales, Service and Consumption Sun.-Thurs. 11 AM—11 PM; Fri. & Sat. 11 AM – 12 AM Midnight; Same for sidewalk café. Applicant: Spiro Gioldasis, sgioldasis@yahoo.com; Representative: Jeff Jackson, jeffjackson02@verizon.net [6B06]

The Chair presented the case and shared background information including that

- At the December meeting, ANC 6B approved a Stipulated License for the Applicant and we are now considering the officially placarded application for The Italian Job LLC.
- Applicant shared his vision for the restaurant, the efforts that he has undertaken over the past 4 years to get open and the remaining approvals that he needs to receive to open
- The Applicant has reviewed and signed a revised SA which was modified to reflect the actual hours stated on the placards as well a the occupancy. This SA is similar to and consistent with other SAs in ANC 6B and includes a provision for the use of an interior trash storage room which the Applicant constructed as part of the renovation.

MOTION: Recommend that the ANC support the new application and having received a signed SA, place it on the Consent Agenda (Jayaraman / Sobelsohn 2<sup>nd</sup>) Motion Passed 8-0-0.

2. ABRA-118108: Harvest Tide Capitol Hill DC LLC, Harvest Tide Steak House, 212 7th Street SE; Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant; Request to add an Entertainment Endorsement; Applicant: Jeff Jackson, jjharlem112@gmail.com; Protest Deadline: 01/30/23 [6B02]

The Chair presented the case and recognized the SMD Commissioner for additional information:

- This is a considered a Substantial Change application to add an Entertainment Endorsement to their existing license.
- Harvest Tide signed a Settlement Agreement (SA) with ANC 6B on June 6, 2021 which was approved by the ABC Board on June 23, 2021.
- The Applicant nor their representative attended the Committee meeting
- Resident member wanted to ensure that surrounding neighbors were notified of the request for an endorsement and were able to speak on the request. The SMD Commissioner stated that notice had been provided and that he had not received any comments or concerns regarding the endorsement
- Committee discussed the existing SA and the Applicants compliance with it, particularly in terms of trash management. SMD Commissioner stated that he was satisfied with the progress being made to address issues that have arisen to date. Chair noted that the SA calls for indoor trash storage but that the Applicant has a line of trash cans in the rear yard.
- Committee discussed the entertainment endorsement and the SMD Commissioner wanted to modify the language in the existing SA to state that the entertainment was limited to non-

amplified music and entertainment. Committee members were supportive adding language to the SA.

- Committee discussed how to handle the case since the Applicant was not present. Chair shared the process that ANC 6B has used in such situations (take No Position). Commissioner wanted to oppose the application rather than take no position and made the following motion: Oppose the application for an Entertainment Endorsement ( Sobelsohn / Oppen-Weiner 2nd). After further discussion the Motion was withdrawn.
- A new motion was made to take no position with the expectation that the Applicant will appear before the Commission to address questions.

MOTION: The Committee takes “No Position” on the application and refers the matter to the full ANC (Sobelsohn / Holman 2<sup>nd</sup>) Motion Passed 8-0-0

#### **IV. Discussion**

1. Monitoring compliance with Settlement Agreements and available options: Notice to Cure; Requesting an ABRA investigation; Show Cause Order from the ABC Board.

The Chair raised the topic of the role that ANC 6B’s ABC Committee could play in ensuring that Establishments are complying with their SA. He described the Notice to Cure provision which is included in many SAs, the ability of ANC Commissions to request that ABRA investigate potential violations and the most extreme option, which is to request a Show Cause hearing before the ABRA Board.

Commissioners and Resident members agreed that any such review should be methodical and cover all Establishments and not focus on select Establishments. The Committee agreed to discuss this further and move forward with creating a structure for such a review.

The Committee also had an open discussion about the proliferation of Initiative 71 (I-71) cannabis gifting stores across ANC 6B. A Commissioner shared that Barracks Row now has 4 such stores in addition to multiple stores on the 600 block of Pennsylvania Avenue SE. Committee members requested that the Chair work to secure a presenter from ABRA on the topic so that Commissioners and resident members can better understand the role of ABRA in regulating these stores.

The Chair also raised the topic of sports betting and the problems that Establishment have been experiencing with the District’s GambetDC. The Chair shared that Establishments are looking to other providers to enhance sports wagering at their Establishment.