

December 18, 2018

9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION:

PRESENT:

Thomas Graham, Chairman
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
ShaRon Grayson Kelsey, Commissioner
Kenneth Miles, Commissioner
Benjamin Rupert, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Cristian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Derrick Anthony, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Nikole Bennett, Administrative Aide

Time: 10:10 a.m.

In the matter of Tianxian Zhang, President, Muchang Lin, Vice President, Ivelisse Contreras, Authorized Person, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Red Crab House, LLC, **t/a Red Crab House**, 14707 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel, 20707, transfer from Buddy's LLC, t/a Buddy's Crab House, Robert A. Bailey, Member, Randall Evans, Member. Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Tianxian Zhang stated that she is a resident of Georgia; that she currently has contracted a lease with the space; that she currently owns a Juicy Crab restaurant in Georgia; that they have a license to serve alcohol; that she has been on the license as a stockholder for 2 years; that they have not had any violations; that she is a manager there; that she worked at a different Juicy Crab before for one year; that their projected open date is the middle of January; that they will have 10-20 employees; that they will have a training program with alcohol training for employees; that she has completed the Maryland Alcohol Awareness training; that the other manager for this restaurant has as well; that she will be there approximately 5 days a week, 8 – 10 hours per day; that she recently moved to Laurel, but it is a temporary address; that she has a Georgia address on the application; that they will have 186 seats at the restaurant; that it will be configured in the same way as the current restaurant, Buddy's Crab House; that there are 2 bars currently in the restaurant and they will remain; that the full menu will be available at both bars the entire time they're open; that she has spent approximately \$300,000 in renovations; that the menu is set; that prices may change; that the hours of operation are slightly different than the application; that the projected hours of operation are 11:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Camacho moved to amend the hours of operation on the application, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Tianxian Zhang stated that she is aware that she must notify the Board of changes to the hours of operation and the layout of the business; that she understands the Rules and Regulations; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol and 18 to serve; that there are no other changes to the application at this time; that she may also adjust the

number of seats in the restaurant; that she will submit an updated floor plan; that she is an owner of the restaurant with 47.5% ownership.

Ivelisse Contreras stated that she is a resident of Beltsville; that she has moved since the application has been filed, but is still a resident of Beltsville; that she has been employed at Myers, Rodbell & Rosenbaum for 7 years; that she has many years of experience in the restaurant industry working as a hostess; that she will be the resident licensee for the restaurant; that she is satisfied that the restaurant will be run in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Board; that she understands she is responsible for any violations the restaurant may incur; that she has not received her Alcohol Awareness Certification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that she will be at the business at least once a month for a few hours; that she has held an alcoholic beverages license previously; that she has not had a violation on a license she held; that the previous license was in Baltimore county.

Muchang Lin stated that he is a resident of Laurel; that he has moved since the application was filed.

Mr. Camacho moved to amend the application to show the updated address, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Muchang Lin stated that he has 14 years of experience in the restaurant industry; that he has worked in places previously that serve alcohol; that he has 8 years of experience being an alcoholic beverages license holder; that he has not had any violations concerning the sale or control of alcoholic beverages; that he worked as a kitchen manager and a front of house manager; that he has had no violations being a front of house manager; that he will be at the restaurant 5 days a week approximately 8 hours a day; that he will be involved in the alcohol training at the restaurant; that he is Alcohol Awareness training certified; that he is familiar with the Rules and Regulations of the Board; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that he is an owner on the license with 27.5% interest.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the request to transfer the license, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Bhounik S. Patel, Managing Member/Authorized Person, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of UMESH, LLC, **t/a Seven Eleven Food Store**, 7206 Sheriff Road, Landover, 20785, transfer from 7206 Sheriff Road, Inc., t/a Seven-Eleven Store, Wina Chiochakitnum, President/Secretary/Treasurer, Andre Lamont Fields, Assistant Recording Secretary.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Bhounik Patel stated that he is a resident of Waldorf; that he has moved since the application was filed.

Linda Carter, Esquire requested for the address to be amended on the application.

Mr. Camacho moved to amend the application, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Bhounik Patel stated that he holds a Permanent Resident card; that he has worked at a liquor store previously, for approximately 3 years; that he recently acquired this store; that he is in the process of being trained by Seven-Eleven for alcohol sales; that the liquor store he worked at previously was his aunt's store in Waldorf; that while he worked there he was involved with a sale to a minor; that it happened as a result of him being a new employee; that he worked there

for 2 months at the time of the violation; that he was asked to work there last minute that day; that he was not trained; that this took place in 2015; that he has had TIPS training since; that the violation was for sale to a minor; that he learned not to sell underage from this experience; that he learned to train all employees to check identification; that he did not check the identification that day; that he received the violation personally; that in Charles County they fine the employee as well; that he plans to have 8 employees; that he will train them personally; that he will have them all undergo Seven-Eleven training on alcohol sales; that the store is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; that with his license he can sell beer and wine from 6:00 a.m. to midnight Monday through Saturday and 8:00 a.m. to midnight on Sunday; that there will be no alcohol on the floor or endcaps; that it will all be in coolers that can and will be locked during the hours they are unable to sell; that he will be there 50 hours a week; that if a customer comes in before midnight, but tries to checkout with alcohol at 12:01 a.m. he will not sell to them; that he has not had a violation other than the one in Charles County; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not been found in violation of any gambling laws; that other than the amendment for his address the application is true and correct; that he understands he is responsible for any possible violations even if he is not on the premise; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that he will not accept vertical identification as proof of age, even though he is allowed to by the state.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the application to transfer the license, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Samuel Umanzor, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of SU Corporation, **t/a Pollio Sabroso**, 4400 Rhode Island Avenue, North Brentwood, 20722.

Applicant is represented by Raquel Smith, Esquire.

Raquel Smith, Esquire stated that Samuel Umanzor was not present and had a Family Law matter to attend at different hearing; that she would like to, if possible, hear from those present have the matter continued.

Mr. Graham stated that they would hear from those present and continue the matter.

Reginald Bagley stated that he is the Chief Administrator for the Town of Brentwood; that Mr. Umanzor met with the Town of Brentwood; that they had several questions for him, such as why he needed to be open until 2:00 a.m. for a family friendly restaurant; that he was told the late hours were to be able to provide late night dining; that he was also aware there are plans for a dance floor; that he is open to a family restaurant and even to them having a license to serve alcohol, but that he doesn't want a night club; that the restaurant is actually in Brentwood, not North Brentwood; that there are other inconsistencies on the application; that the hours are a problem; that he supports the establishment, but it's conditional; that for his support he needs the hours to change and have more information on the logistics; that he was told that they applied for a Special Entertainment Permit as well; that he was told the permit was for the restaurant to play music and have a Dance Hall Permit to avoid any issues if someone wants to dance next to their table.

Chief Bob Althoff stated that he is Chief of Police for the Town of Brentwood's Police Department; that he supports the restaurant, but only being open until midnight; that in the past there have been issues at this address; that serving alcohol until 2:00 – 3:00 a.m. causes trouble; that his experience as a Police Officer has shown him the disturbances, public urination, noise

complaints, and other issues that come from late night drinking; that he thinks the town allowing them to be open until midnight is generous because it is past the normal hours for the noise ordinance; that later hours would negatively impact the town and his budget as Chief of Police for Brentwood; that his officer's typically work from noon to midnight; that they have 4 ½ officers on staff including himself; that no other establishment in the town is open that late; that private security may quell his fears, but that it does not mean just having people with shirts that say Security on them; that a restaurant does not need entertainment; that a dance floor and music with late hours leads to disturbances, fighting and other issues; that he is a career law enforcement officer.

Reginald Bagley stated that Mr. Umanzor says that the matter with Lesly's has been handled, but that the town is not able to find a record of it being taken care of; that Mr. Umanzor is also a part owner in Lesly's; that they had a Sale to a Minor violation recently; that he also a status update on the violation.

This matter was continued to a later date.

In the matter of Crystal Konohia, Resident Agent, for a new Class B (BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of The Carrington LLC, t/a **The Carrington Conference & Event Center**, 6451B Marlboro Pike, District Heights, 20747.

Applicant is represented by Paul Jackson, Esquire.

Crystal Konohia stated that she is a resident of Clinton; that she has been a resident of Prince George's County most of her life; that she graduated from Friendly High School; that she is the Director of Human Resources and Operations at the Lupus Foundation of America; that she is a 100% owner of The Carrington Conference and Event Center; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has never been in violation of gambling laws; that she does not have a financial interest in any other business with an Alcoholic Beverages license; that she will be present on site 40 hours per week; that she has been working as an event planner; that for the past two years she has owned her own event planning business; that she wanted her own venue and raised the funds to open one of her own; that she has a lease for the property; that her seating capacity is 400; that there will be a bar with 10 seats; that the bar is inside of a lounge area with 40 seats; that it is all included in the floor plan; that she will have a kitchen with a full menu; that patrons will be residents of Prince George's County as well as other counties in Maryland and Virginia; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that she will have a program to train bartenders; that she has completed her TIPS training; that she understands she is responsible for any possible violations; that she is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; that she understands the requirements of the BLX license; that her hours she can be open are 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Sunday; that she understands she can't have off sales; that she is investing approximately 1.5 million into the space; that she understands that she will need a CPA for the amount spent to effectuate the license if granted; that her proposed hours of operation will be 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. with music ending at midnight; that the license is critical for the business to be competitive with other businesses, such as Martin's Crosswinds and hotels; that to give back to the community she plans to hold seminars for entrepreneurs and hold give aways for the community as well; that she estimates her completion date to be April 15, 2019; that her minimum seating is 10; that there are no changes to the application.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Robert Clark.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the request for the license, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Graham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikole Bennett
Administrative Aide

Adjourned 11:06 a.m.