

January 23, 2018

9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION:

PRESENT:

Thomas Graham, Chairman
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
Eric Bowman, Commissioner
ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey, Commissioner
Ken Miles, Commissioner
Cristian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Kelly Markomanolakis, Administrative Assistant
Brittany Sawyers, Administrative Aide

Time: 10:05 a.m.

In the matter of a Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Meyer's Liquors**, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor License, Nicki, LLC, 3601 Old Silver Hill Road, Suitland, 20746, Pragneshkumar G. Joshi, Member/Authorized Person in the place and of Melvin S. Anderson, Member. Applicants represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Pragneshkumar Joshi stated that he is a resident of Waldorf; that he is a citizen of the United States; that he has been a resident of Maryland for ten years; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not been charged with violating any alcoholic beverage or gambling laws; that he has not had a license revoked; that he does not have an interest in any other business with an alcoholic beverage license; that he owns 25%; that he is a Member/Authorized Person; that he will be on the premises as needed; that he is familiar with the rules and regulations; that he is alcohol awareness certified; that he will comply with the rules and regulations; that a person must be 21 to purchase and 18 to sell alcoholic beverages; he stated the five acceptable forms of identification; that he understands the responsibilities of holding a license.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve of the Substitution of Corporate Officers' application, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Brown, Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Elliot Baum, LLC Manager, Aaron Baum, Authorized Person, for a Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor License, for the use of Capital Blue Ribbon Restaurants, LLC, **t/a Famous Dave's**, 14140 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel, 20707 transfer from Famous Dave's Ribs of Maryland, Inc. t/a Famous Dave's, John Beckman, President/Secretary, James Lenchner, Vice-President. Applicants represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Elliott Baum stated that he is a resident of Michigan.

Aaron Baum stated that he is a resident of New York.

Elliott Baum stated that he owns 18 restaurants; that there will not be any changes to the menu or the recipe; that the application as filed is true and correct; that they are in the process of transferring three other businesses.

Gvido VanMaanf stated that he is a resident of Woodbridge.

William Waynant stated that he is a resident of Brookeville; that he is the general manager of the restaurant.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve of the Substitution of Corporate Officers application, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Mr. Brown, Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Shoukat Choudhry, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class D(R), Beer License, for the use of GMD Friendly, Inc., **t/a Friendly Market**, 11500 Old Fort Road, Fort Washington 20744 transfer from Friendly Market, Inc., t/a Friendly Market, Mohammed Taquiddin, President/ Treasurer, Shamair Lloyd, Secretary. Applicants represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Shoukat Choudhry stated that he is a resident of Davidsonville; that he is a citizen; that he has been a resident of Maryland for 20 years; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not been charged with violation any alcoholic beverage laws; that he has not had a license revoked; that he does not have an interest in any other business with an alcoholic beverage license; that he is the President/Secretary/Treasurer; that he owns 50% of the stock; that he will be on the premises over 10 hours; that he will comply with the rules and regulations; that he is scheduled to take alcohol awareness training on January 27, 2018; that a person must be 21 to purchase and 18 to sell alcoholic beverages; he stated the five acceptable forms of identification; that the hours of operation are 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Mr. Camacho moved to amend the application to reflect the hours of operation as 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m., seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Bowman, Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Shoukat Choudhry stated that there are no changes to the application; that he understands and accepts the responsibility of holding a license.

Mr. Camacho move to approve the Substitution of Corporate Officers applications, seconded by Mr. Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Bowman, Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Ryan Wallen, President, Cindy Chang, Vice President for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Cor Restaurant Group, LLC, **t/a Cori's Modern Kitchen and Bar**, 4710 Auth Place, Suitland, 20746. Applicants represented by Robert Kim, Esquire. Robert Kim, Esquire stated that the restaurant was approved for a license in December 2016; that due to issues with the use and occupancy permit the business relinquished the license; that they expect to be open in March; that they are requesting a beer, wine and liquor license.

Cindy Chang stated that she is a resident her of Temple Hills, that her address is 5000 Temple Hill Road, Temple Hills; that she has been a resident of Maryland for 1.5 years; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has not been charged with violating any alcoholic beverage laws; that she has not had a license denied; that she has not held a license before; that she does not have an interest in any other business with an alcoholic beverage license; that she is the Vice President; that she holds 45%; that she will work 35-60 hours a week; that she is responsible for the sales, training, accounting and as the backup executive chef; that she is familiar with the rules and regulations; that they will open at the end of March; that they are in construction now; that they will have 30-35 employees; that a person must be 21 to purchase and 18 to sell alcoholic beverages; she stated the five acceptable forms of identification; that she is responsible for the accounting; that Suitland is a good location; that the area is near the metro station; that southern area of the county could use more sit down restaurants; that the restaurant will serve the area;

that the closest restaurants are located at National Harbor and MGM; that the restaurant will have a local family feel; that the restaurant will accommodate the public; that she has spent time in the community to determine the community support; that she has received a positive response; that the business will not disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood; that they will not have dancing; that the focus is on food; that they are located three miles from Andrews Air Force Base; that they are by the Branch Avenue Metro; that they are near the Red Lobster; that the area has car dealerships and office building.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the amendment of the application to reflect 5000 Temple Hill Road, Temple Hills, Maryland as Cindy Chang's address, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Bowman, Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Ryan Wallen stated that he is a resident of Camp Springs; that he is a citizen of the United States; that he has been a resident of Maryland for four years; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not been charged with violating any alcoholic beverage laws; that he has not had a license denied or revoked; that he has worked at businesses with alcoholic beverage licenses; that he has a support petition with approximately 100 signatures; that they have a letter of support from Larry Heinz from Economic Development; that the restaurant has 100 seats and 15 bar seats; that they have a lounge area; that the campus for Homeland Security will be built in the area; that the restaurant is upscale casual; that the ingredients are fresh; that they only have one freeze for French fries; that he is the chef; that he developed the menu; that the menu will change seasonally; that he wants to bring something to Prince George's County; that this is an underserved area; that he attended the French Culinary Institute in New York; that he has been an executive chef for 10 years; that the meals will be served on china with silverware; that the area is seeking this type of restaurant; that the license will not be a threat to the peace and safety. Board's Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Deputy Chief Cristian Mendoza.

In the matter of Patrick Davis, Owner, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor for the use of ExclusiveBlu, LLC, **t/a ExclusiveBlu Restaurant and Lounge**, 354 Main Street, Laurel, 20707. Applicants represented by Raquel Smith, Esquire.

Patrick Davis stated that he is a resident of Laurel.

Raquel Smith, Esquire stated that an application for this restaurant was heard in December 2016; that the application was not approved; that obtaining the license is the last piece of the puzzle for this business; that the restaurant is on Main Street in Laurel; that the applicant has a vested interest in Laurel.

Patrick Davis stated that he has been a resident of Prince George's County for 34 years; that he is a resident of Laurel; that he is a local business owner; that he is a Prince George's County Fire Fighter; that he has been a volunteer fire fighter for seven years; that this business is in the historical district of Laurel; that the area is being revitalized; that he volunteers in Laurel; that the correct address is 354; that he is the sole owner of the business; that he anticipates opening in March 2018; that he has filed for the required permits; that the will be the first roof top restaurant; that Main Street in Laurel did not get the attention the other areas in Laurel received; that the city is on board with this business; that an apartment building was built one block away; that this is a perfectly situation location; that the apartment building is in walking distance; that he hired a chef to develop the menu; that the menu will change seasonally; that he is making superficial updates to the building; that getting the special exception took some time; that he has never been arrested; that he is the sole owner; that he will work on the premises 35-40 hours a

week; that he will have 15 employees; that he loves Laurel and would like to see some positive changes; that it is time for local business owners; that he will target young professionals; that he is alcohol awareness certified; that a person must be 18 to sell and 21 to consume alcoholic beverages; he stated the five acceptable forms of identification; that they will provide entertainment; that this will be a live music venue; that it will not be a crazy party venue; that they will offer professional entertainment; that they will have local bands; that there will be professional well run entertainment; that he has other ventures that take up his time; that he has worked in the area; that he is retired from PEPCO; that the area needs a place for people to unwind; that the building is 58 years old; that he will preserve the history.
Board's Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Deputy Chief Cristian Mendoza.

In the matter of Zacharie Tankoua, Member, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Sol Banquet Hall, LLC, **t/a VIP Stage**, 5005 Jackson Street, #B, Hyattsville, 20781. Applicants represented by Charles Iweanoge, Esquire.

Zacharie Tankoua stated that he is a resident of Lanham; that he has been a resident of Prince George's County for 17 years; that he has a BS degree; that he has not been charged with violating any alcoholic beverage laws; that he has not previously held a license; that they will provide special food; that he will provide African food; that they will provide high end African food; that the photo presented shows the interior of the restaurant; that the restaurant is located in Hyattsville; that they will open in April 2018; that they are putting all the licenses together; that they applied for an alcoholic beverage license and a dance hall permit; that he is a Managing Member of the LLC; that he will make sure that the alcoholic beverage rules are applied; that he will attend alcohol awareness; that he is responsible for the day to day operations; that they will have 25 employees; that he has reviewed the rules and regulations; that he understands the rules and regulation; that he is alcohol awareness certified; that a person must be 21 to consume and 18 to sell alcoholic beverages; that he has a food managers license; that they will comply with the rules and regulations; that they will have live entertainment; that they are in the process of getting a dance hall permit; that they have a full kitchen; that the food will be prepared on the premises; that all the staff will attend alcohol awareness; that the menu is in progress; that the menu will change; that the license will not have an adverse impact on the neighborhood; that it is not around any residential area; that this is a one of kind business; that they anticipate over \$1 million a year; that the restaurant has private VIP areas; that they are permitted to have 150 patrons per the use and occupancy; that they will make charitable donations; that the restaurant is designed for private meetings.

Mr. Graham presented the application with information from the business' web site.

Zacharie Tankoua read the information provided into the record; that he doesn't have any knowledge of this business; that the information was prior to his signing the lease; that he does not have a web address; that they have a full service kitchen; that the VIP area is for private conversation; that they will have a DJ with patron dancing; that they will clear the table and chairs for the dancing; that the VIP section will remain open; that food will be cooked on site.
Board's Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Deputy Chief Cristian Mendoza.

Mr. Camacho moved to award the new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor License to Cor Restaurant Group, LLC, **t/a Cori's Modern Kitchen and Bar**, 4710 Auth Place, Suitland, 20746, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Bowman, Mr. Miles and Mr. Graham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly E. Markomanolakis
Administrative Assistant

Adjourned: 12:00 p.m.