

February 25, 2020
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION:

PRESENT:

Daphne Turpin Forbes, Chairman
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
Kenneth Miles, Commissioner
Tammie Norman, Commissioner
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Benjamin Rupert, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Cristian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Nikole Bennett, Administrative Aide
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide

Time: 10:14 a.m.

In the matter of Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Anthony's New York Pizza & pasta House**, Class B, Beer and Wine, 15480 Annapolis Road, Suite 220, Bowie, 20715, Miguel Angel Ventura to serve as President/Secretary/Treasurer, in the place and stead of Maria Ochoa, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant is represented by Nick Kallis, Esquire.

Miguel Ventura stated that he is a resident of Glen Burnie.

Luis Garcia Portillo stated that he is a resident of Glen Burnie.

Nick Kaliss, Esquire stated that they are here to complete a Substitution of Corporate Officers; that Mr. Ventura is to be substituted as a licensee for Ms. Ochoa; that Mr. Ventura has some difficulty with Spanish and Mr. Garcia is here with an interest in the license and to interpret for Mr. Ventura.

Miguel Ventura stated that the application submitted is true and correct; that he has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not had a violation of any gambling or alcohol laws; named the acceptable forms of identification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that he accepts responsibility for the license; that he will be on the premises as needed; that he understands he is responsible for any and all violations even if he is not on the premises at the time the violation occurs; that he has a different full time job.

Ms. Norman asked who is responsible for running the business while he is working.

Luis Garcia Portillo stated that he will run the business when Mr. Ventura is working; that he has received his Alcohol Awareness training.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the substitution of corporate officers, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Siddhartha Maharjan, Member/Manager, Prabjot Batra, Member, for a Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of RMPB Enterprises, LLC, **t/a Gee's Liquors**,

1820 University Blvd E, Adelphi, 20783, transfer from RMBP Enterprises, LLC, t/a Gee's, 3415 52nd Avenue, Cheverly, 20781, Siddhartha Maharjan, Member/Manager, Prabjot Batra, Member.

Applicant is represented by Jason Deloach, Esquire.

Siddhartha Maharjan stated that he is a resident of Rockville.

Prabjot Batra stated that he is a resident of Laurel.

Jason Deloach, Esquire stated that his client understands the concern of the community with the location; that he believes the testimony will show that they believe the concern to be a misunderstanding; that the type of place and who is involved have entirely different visions of the type of establishment they want to run than the previous owners; that he believes they can show that the transfer of location of the business will add to the community.

Siddhartha Maharjan stated that he has prepared documents for everyone; that he is the managing member for the business; that the filed transfer of location application is true and correct; that he was born in Nepal; that he became a United States citizen in 2002; that he grew up in University Gardens; that he went to school here; that he went to school at University of Maryland and received a Bachelor's Degree in Neuroscience; that he is at Gee's every day; that he took over for his father; that his father worked for 15 years to become his own boss; that his father has been diagnosed with terminal cancer since he took over; that the license is a B+ license which allows for off sale; that they have not had any violations since he came on the license; that his dad never had violations either; that they chose to transfer to the old Tick Tock location; that there is an opportunity with the Purple Line coming through the area; that he also wants to give back to the community; that he wants to make the area better; that he understands the history at the location; that he didn't know everything when he first applied and has since learned more; that he understands there were illegal practices going on at the location; that he went to council members to obtain more information; that he wanted to learn what happened; that he understands there was poor management and a lack of public safety; that he wants to improve the narrative; that he wants to be an asset; that security is his number one priority.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that she wants to address the elephant in the room; that she understands the concern about the location as the previous location for Tick Tock; that this is a different business; that she wants to and hopes the community will remain open and fair to what is being said.

Siddhartha Maharjan stated that the previous owner of Tick Tock has nothing to do with this business; that he is not related to the previous owners of Tick Tock; that they are not even from the same country; that the previous owners were driven by business profit; that he wants to be impactful and change the world one community at a time; that he wants to change the negative connotation with a liquor store; that he wants to be an example for what to do; that they will operate legally and responsibly; that he wants to be involved in the community; that they should not be a negative impact to the community; that he understands what happened before and he wants to fix those problems; that he will not sell to minors, sell single canned beer or shots; that he feels those things contribute to problems; that selling singles make it easy to hide and consume alcohol in public; that he wants to sell brands of alcohol that are not available everywhere; that there will be more space at the new location; that he wants to add local alcohol and more exotic types; that there is lots of competition around the store and this is how he will stay competitive; that he will be on the premises 16 hours per day every day; that he will be the manager that there will be approximately eight employees to begin depending on how busy the

store is; that all employees will have their Alcohol Awareness Certification; that he will continue to serve hot food; that it is primarily rice and chicken and like a Spanish food market; that the current hours are 8:00 a.m. to midnight; that the hours may change depending on business; that he has a security plan; that he has hired civilian security; that he worked with the Prince George's County Police Department to develop his security plan; that he has cameras with someone monitoring them at all times; that he will not allow loitering; that this will be a safe place; that he believes he has resources to help be a valuable member of the community; that he does volunteer work with North Star; that he has partnered with an elementary school previously to donate; that he has a petition of support; that he understands the political opposition; that he understands it is warranted and doesn't disagree with the concern, but it is disheartening; that he doesn't condone the previous owner's actions; that he wants to change people's minds and have them understand the rumors are not true; that it is terrifying people he has never met are angry with him; that he would like a fair shot; that he has seen the letter from Senator Augustine; that he reached out to Senator Augustine's office and never heard back; that he understands people are busy, but he just looking for advice and guidance; that he feels like he is applying for a job and being scrutinized based on someone else's resume; that the location itself isn't bad, it is an inanimate object; that he would be willing to come back in one year if granted the transfer of location to check in with the Board and the community; that he apologizes for upsetting anyone or causing discomfort.

Mr. Camacho asked if his father worked at Gee's.

Siddhartha Maharajan stated that his father bought Gee's in September of 2018; that he was the manager at Lee's prior to owning Gee's.

Dr. Gerald Patnode stated that he is a resident of Hanover, Pennsylvania; that he is the Professor of Entrepreneurship and Marketing at York College of Pennsylvania; that he has extensive experience in evaluating public need; that Gee's reached out to him; that he has been before the Board several times before; that he looked at the census data and consumer expenditure data; that he also looked at the demand for full service restaurant and Class A retail stores; that in his opinion this is a solid market that is driven by the presence of University of Maryland; that there seems to be a market for the addition of a business.

Ms. Norman asked what size radius was looked at.

Dr. Gerald Patnode stated that he looks a one, three- and five-mile radius and finds the three-mile radius to be most informative.

Ms. Norman asked how many establishments are in a three-mile radius.

Dr. Gerald Patnode stated that there are 6 establishments considered to be full-service sit-down restaurants that serve alcohol and 15 sit down full service.

Sergeant Milton Chabla stated that he is a Sergeant with the Prince George's County Police Department and has been with the department for 22 years; that he has patrolled District 1 for the last ten years; that this location is within this area; that he worked with Mr. Maharajan to develop a security plan; that he worked with officers that were familiar with the issues when they were going on and they also looked at the security concerns to help address problems; that they looked at lighting, loitering, cameras, signs, and more; that they determined the submitted security plan to be adequate; that he believes the business is community oriented; that they will be policing the area and look for problems.

Diljaan Melhi stated that he is a resident of Clarksville; that he is the property manager; that the space is 7,500 square feet and has been vacant since Tick Tock closed; that there are four other

tenants currently in that area; that he is the son of the previous owners of Tick Tock; that he was approached by many different tenants for this location and he has tried to discourage Mr. Maharajan, but he has a heart of gold; that he has high powered LEDS; that he is renovating and eliminating issues; that his sister owns Big Daddy's.

Anabell Martinez stated that she is here in support; that Mr. Maharajan has a good vision for the area; that she doesn't know him personally, but she believes in his vision.

Tememe Teferra stated that he was the first to sign in; that he met Mr. Maharajan at the current location; that he is a good business person; that he has a degree in neuroscience; that he left school to take care of his father; that he took responsibility for his family and is a responsible person; that he has built up the current business; that they need good customers and good community members and businesses; that he has a good heard.

Conrad Alfarro stated that he has a business two blocks away; that Mr. Maharajan runs a good business; that this will be a good location for him; that he has better prices and is more organized than others; that he is a prime example of how to run a business; that he is coming and speaking on behalf of the Spanish community in the area.

Slobodan Simic stated that he is good friends with Mr. Maharajan since high school; that they lost contact a bit with going to school, but he was shocked and happy to find out he has his own business; that they had bonded over both being foreigners; that when he heard the news about his dad Mr. Maharajan went back to help his family; that this is supposed to be the American Dream; that he heard the audience laugh when Mr. Maharajan said he wanted to help the community, but money made is money put back into the community; that more money will help to reinvest more business; that if there is going to be a liquor store in that area anyway, which there probably be, they should put it in the hands of someone trustworthy.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that the Board will hear from the Opposition now.

Deni Taveras stated that Mr. Maharajan came to one meeting regarding the relocation, but did not say where; that Senator Augustine and her said no; that they have seen Gee's and they feel this location does not need that added to the area; that Mr. Melhi is known for having low income properties; that there is crime at Lee's; that there are relations between the previous owner of Tick Tock and Mr. Melhi; that they are hearing about more connections; that the family that owned Tick Tock is involved in some way with Lee's and Mr. Maharajan's father worked there; this is a low income area; that there are eight liquor stores nearby with four within a block; that they had requested information about the proposed buildout and it was not provided; that the community has a vision of what they want the area to become; that these businesses did not ask the community what they wanted; that the purple line is coming; that they deserve a transformation of these properties and not to have visitors and travelers see laundry facilities, hair braiding and liquor stores.

Pamela Boozer-Strother stated that she is here as an individual in the community; that she is the District 3 member of the Prince George's County Board of Education; that the Board of Education had not considered this matter and therefore can not speak on their behalf; that she lives in this area; that she heard about Tick Tock when she moved to the area and learned about the issues; that the Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal was denied and the business closed; that she lives miles away; that the alcohol density is higher in low income areas; that there is more underage drinking and drinking and driving when alcohol is more readily available in these areas.

Pleshette Monroe stated that she is here on behalf of Wanika Fisher; that Ms. Fisher is attending the Maryland General Assembly; that the reputation of Tick Tock does need to be considered; that there are some inconsistencies with the business; that there are plenty of liquor stores and places to buy alcoholic beverages already; that she believes there is misrepresentation happening; that she believes there is a relation between the previous owners of Tick Tock and the owner's of Gee's trying to go into the location; that she is unsure if they are related, but they want more clarification and a better understanding; that Ms. Fisher's constituents have asked her to speak on the matter; that Ms. Fisher requests the transfer of location request be denied.

Bill Edelen stated that he is here on behalf of the Department of Permits Inspection and Enforcement, specifically with Code Enforcement; that normally they come to the hearing to discuss the permit for the property; that with this property the last Use and Occupancy Permit was issued in 2012 with the property owner being Melhi ARD Nahli, LLC and a Tenant of t/a Tick Tock; that Tick Tock is no longer in the space; that the business will have to acquire a new permit prior to occupying the space; that Park and Planning have to approve the Use; that there are building inspections, electrical inspections, fire safety inspections and more that also need to be completed.

Mr. Camacho asked if there were any current restrictions on the Use and Occupancy Permit or property.

Bill Edelen stated that he is unsure; that he is also unsure if a new permit has been applied for; that the process to receive a new Use and Occupancy Permit is long.

Ayelet Hines stated that she is a private resident; that she works with Health Departments across the state; that areas with greater access to alcohol attributes to an increase in violent crime; that there is an increase in homicides, rape, suicide and driving while intoxicated in areas with higher access to alcohol; that the Board needs to consider this with this license trying to move to this location.

Paul Rowe stated that he is a resident of Carole Highlands; that he is a member of the Northern Gateway CDC; that they don't want to have a business that sells alcohol at this location; that the community was held hostage with the violence of the previous business; that the community worked with the Prince George's County Police Department to close the business; that Tick Tock was a disruption with a long documented history of the communities appeals to close the business; that Tick Tock attributed to a large portion of the crime in District 1; that North Gateway CDC seeks to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the community; that they no longer want their community to be the dumping grounds of pawn shops and liquor stores.

Andrew Carter stated that college students don't come to this area; that they go to Washington, D.C. to go out; that they don't even go out in College Park typically; that the crime in the area has decreased for the past ten years since Tick Tock closed; that Purple Line is coming; that they don't want people from Montgomery County coming and traveling and thinking all they have is liquor stores; that he understands and sympathizes with Mr. Maharajan about his father having cancer; that he feels he should open the business elsewhere.

Mariza Salza stated that she appreciates the opportunity to come and speak; that she is from the Adelphi Hills Community; that elementary schools surround the area; that the community opposes the addition of the business; that she has a petition of those in opposition; that they don't want Tick Tock reopened; that there is a poor track record when they were open and they don't want to see the problems return; that there was a 20% increase in crime and calls for service when Tick Tock was open; that approving this transfer of location will undo all the work they

have done; that she wants the owner to explore other business opportunities he could bring to this area instead; that they aren't opposed to him, just this business.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that she wants to reiterate that the licensee is not reopening Tick Tock; that this is a different business.

Sara Rockefeller stated that she opposes the transfer of location; that she works for CASA as a Public Safety Program Coordinator; that they study crime as it relates to locations and the contributing factors; that there has been a reduction in crime; that they consider there to be hot spots for crime in the area; that this location is this one; that this is a location problem; that the organization is the largest community organization and they were not contacted by the owner of Gee's.

Yolanda Quiztarlla stated that she is here on behalf of the Lewisdale community; that they are 1.5 miles away; that when her and her husband moved to the area three years ago they thought it was beautiful; that they were not prepared for the drunkenness of the area; that there are drunk people in public, empty liquor bottles, public urination; that 20% of the calls for service in that area involve rape, assault and prostitution; that in her line of work she personally worked to help 15 people that were assaulted in the area; that she believes Mr. Maharajan should move the business elsewhere.

John Robertson stated that he resides in Cool Spring Terrace community; that he is here to speak on behalf of the community; that there are over 300 single family homes; that they have issues of break ins and loitering; that he's concerned for the community if the transfer of location is approved; that if Mr. Maharajan was so concerned for the community he should not have cancelled the last hearing hoping the community would stay home; that Mr. Maharajan didn't want to hear what they had to say.

Yugo Rodriguez stated that he is concerned about the reopening of a liquor store in the community; that he used to be an alcoholic; that Tick Tock was one of his favorite places; that he knows what happened there over nine years ago; that after they closed he quit drinking and stopped talking to people that frequented the establishment; that if this place opened it would be another challenge for him.

Terry Colton stated that he manages a two apartment building complexes behind this area; that there are approximately 940 apartments; that he is opposed to this business; that the renters were victims of what happened with Tick Tock; that the community needs more educational facilities; that they need to help the youth and make the neighborhood better; that he is willing to meet with Mr. Maharajan to discuss other ideas with him for a business in the area.

Josh Clayton stated that he is a member of Carole Highlands community; that he is only able to call this business Tick Tock; that to call it anything else minimizes the risks; that he personally shopped there and was solicited for drugs, prostitution, weapons and minors asking him to buy alcohol; that he is not opposed to a business in this location, but the alcohol.

Jason Deloach, Esquire stated that his client understands the concerns of the elected officials and the community; that the problems came from Tick Tock, not him; that he has addressed the issues; that Mr. Maharajan is part of the community, educated here and lived here; that Mr. Maharajan wants to be a responsible member of the community and is willing to have monthly meetings with the community; that he is willing to come back one year after the transfer of location is approved and have the Board requalify him and the business; that he did not cancel because he wanted to keep people from attending the hearing, but to be able to address the letter

received the day before the hearing from Senator Augustine; that all of Prince George's County has seen a reduction in crime.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that they have heard from everyone; that the Board will deliberate; that the Board implores everyone to be respectful and consider their difficult decision; that the Board must consider balance and fair; that the Board appreciates everyone that took time to come speak today.

Mr. Camacho stated that the central issue is that the public is accommodated; that typically they have two issues to consider, public safety and accommodation; that he believes there are sufficient off sale licenses in the area and on sale; that the community may actually be over accommodated; that he doesn't believe another business with an alcoholic beverage license is needed in this community.

Mr. Miles stated that he agrees; that they must think seriously about this matter; that they can't negatively impact the neighborhood.

Ms. Norman stated that she agrees; that the public is accommodated; that there is no need for this business in this location.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that they do need to consider the accommodation of the public and to ensure there are enough businesses; that the licensee's efforts are laudable to work with the community, but the business just doesn't accommodate the public.

Mr. Camacho moved to deny the application for transfer of location, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Norman, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

The Board adjourned for a break at 11:56 a.m.

The hearing was resumed at 12:04 p.m.

In the matter of Ajay Sharma, Member-Manager, Amit Bharat, Member, for a Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Liquor Hut, LLC, **t/a Liquor Hut**, 5350 Queens Chapel Road, Hyattsville, 20782, transfer from Lee's Liquors and Restaurant, LLC, t/a Lee's Restaurant, 2903 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, 20782, Ajay Sharma, Member.

Licensee is represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Ajay Sharma stated that he is a resident of Silver Spring.

Amit Bharat stated that he is a resident of Greenbelt.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that this is an application for transfer of location; that Mr. Sharma has owned the business since 2003; that Mr. Sharma has brought Mr. Bharat in to assist with the financial side and the operation; that they want to relocate; that the new establishment is only about 500 feet away; that the place was formerly a Pizza Hut; that they chose their name because of that; that the owners met with the community to change the name and reduce the hours of operation; that these changes were requested prior to the hearing.

Amit Bharat stated that he is a United States 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 had an alcoholic beverages license revoked; that he was the licensee for a business in Baltimore when an employee had a sale to a minor violation; that he does not have a financial interest in any other business in Prince George's county; that his title is member/authorized person; that he has a 50% interest in the business; that he will be at the establishment full time; that he has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that he has his Alcohol Awareness Certification; that the minimum age to consume alcohol is 21, 18 to serve; named the acceptable forms of identification; that he will ensure the employees comply with the Rules and Regulations; that

they have made no other changes; that he understands he is responsible should any violations occur.

Ajay Sharma stated that he is a United States citizen; that he has been a resident of Maryland for at least 17 years; that he has owned and operated the business since 2003; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has had a sale to a minor violation in 2012 and 2018; that both violations were employees; that he has not had a license for the sale of alcoholic beverages revoked; that he is the current licensee for this business; that he does not have an interest in any other establishment that holds an alcoholic beverage license in Prince George's county; that he will now have a 50% interest as a member/manager; that he will be on premises more than 50-60 hours per week; that he has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that he will ensure his employee's follow the Rules and Regulations; that he has his Alcohol Awareness Certification; ; that the minimum age to consume alcohol is 21, 18 to serve; named the acceptable forms of identification; that he understands he is responsible should any violations occur; that the City of Hyattsville has contacted him regarding the application; that he has met with the City four times; that he has tried to comply with their requests and make changes to the business; that he has changed the name of the business, the hours and the security; that this is a busy block; that there are many calls for service; that they make many of the calls themselves because no one else does.

Amit Bharat stated that the City is concerned with the loitering; that there is a dealership next door too and Aldi; that they have contacted the City and addressed the number of the calls; that they also need to address the issues; that they have in house security for themselves; that there have been 200 trespass calls; that they want to help solve the problems not cause more issues; that they don't want to encourage people loitering or drinking in public; that they don't want them there either; that they want to go to the other side of the street behind Aldi; that he believes it will be easier to handle the issues; that they will have extra LED lighting; that they are willing to hire off duty Hyattsville Police Officers' that they currently have private security; that they can monitor the establishment better at this new location; that on February 24, 2020 they submitted a detailed business plan; that they have relayed their willingness to help and make changes to the City; that they have not received any written notices or complaints from the City since Mr. Sharma has owned the business; that he has a petition with over 500 signatures in support; that there will be a \$200,000 investment for renovations; that they want to paint and improve lighting inside and outside; that they want cameras all around the building as well.

Ajay Sharma stated that the trespass notices help to deter repeat offenders; that Maryland News Center and Queens Chapel are 1.5 miles away; that he has talked to the customers about relocating; that he has people to testify in support.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked how many security officers are on the premises.

Amit Bharat stated that they will have on Hyattsville Police officer on weekends from 8:00 p.m. to close; that they have private security there seven days a week from 5:00 p.m. to close.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked if they intend to increase their community involvement.

Amit Bharat stated that they are involved with fundraising and charities as much as they can; that they have worked with Fire and Police Departments whenever they are asked.

Ajay Sharma stated that they also attend Round Table meetings for business owners in the area monthly.

Ms. Norman asked if the parking lot was accessible by Hamilton and Queens Chapel.

Amit Bharat stated yes.

Nathaniel Hicks that he is here in support of the transfer of location; that this will be a bigger location which also means more patrons; that they will better be able to involve themselves with the community; that the corridor is transitioning.

DoGuy Kanara that he has been a patron of the liquor store and bar for five years; that he is sad to see the bar side going away, but it is a good establishment; that he doesn't believe transferring location will hurt the community.

Michael Arrington stated that the applicant is only moving 500 feet; that they are not adding another business to the community; that they are only moving to a better location; that this will bring improvements, increase security and decrease loitering; that he believes moving will cause less problems; that his role is to be a liaison between the city, the community and the applicant; that he wants to bring businesses together and fix community problems; that he feels this will be a better location for everyone.

Jackie Daniels stated that she has been going there for 30 years; that she has never had an issue; that she believes the transfer of location will be an asset; that they will have fine wine; that they will be better able to serve the community.

James Stevens stated that he has been there for 26 years; that he works for the Fire Department in Washington, D.C.; that he goes to Lee's Restaurant to wind down after his shifts; that he has never had a problem there; that if he had of had problems he wouldn't be a customer; that the problems come from places outside the establishment; that the security from Lee's Restaurant stops many of the issues; that he is only disappointed the bar is closing.

Howard Keys stated that he has raised two children in this area; that he has frequented the business for many years; that he will miss the bar; that the business is a hub of activity; that moving will help to alleviate the trespassing and loitering.

Caroline French stated that she has been in the area for eight years; that she found the business to be friendly and welcoming; that the problems come from outside the establishment; that they are not the issue; that there will be better security if they move; that the business will be more secluded and stop the foot traffic loitering.

David Santiza stated that he has been a resident of Hyattsville for 35 years; that he is in support of moving the business; that there is loitering on the corner where they are now; that there is also a Kentucky Fried Chicken, dealership and a drive thru beer and wine across the street; that he supports the move if they work with the City of Hyattsville,

Michael Johnson stated that he believes the move will be better for the community if they move the bar and restaurant; that there won't be people hanging around at all; that he believes this will be a better opportunity if they put the money into it.

Deni Taveras stated that she is concerned because there are already five liquor stores in a one block radius; that the issue is the bars and liquor stores in this area; that the issue is also with Lee's Restaurant and the Melhi's don't provide high end property; that they cater to low income; that Lee's Restaurant is responsible for 20% of the calls for service; that they worry if Lee's Restaurant moves the Melhi's will try to bring in another liquor store to take their place; that there are changes coming and they are dramatic and amazing; that they need to be mindful of what they are attracting to the area; that she supports the City of Hyattsville; that they need better quality businesses.

Mayor Hollingsworth stated that she is the Mayor for the City of Hyattsville; that the city is opposed to the transfer of locations; that there are concerns of public safety in their current location and they worry it will be the same in a different location; that they have been before the

Board in support of business previously, but they do not support this one; that they should address the safety concerns in the area; that throughout this area there is public defecation, public intoxication and verbal abuse; that the businesses around the establishment don't want to be subjected to this.

Pamela Boozer-Strother stated that she is there as an individual in the community; that this is a critical area with the highest concentration of poverty; that money should be spent on better businesses than liquor stores; that she finds it sad she takes her son to school at 7:45 a.m. and liquor establishments are able to open as early as 6:00 a.m.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked for Mayor Hollingsworth to share additional details on the lack of accountability for the establishment and the City of Hyattsville's safety concerns.

Mayor Hollingsworth stated that she appreciates the establishment's owners trying to resolve issues, but would have appreciated the assistance long ago; that she has not seen them at the Round Table meetings; that when asked about community involvement, the owners were not able to give a specific example; that the City was offended by the choice of name; that they were calling themselves a hut, but supposed to be fine wine; that the owner's should have gone above and beyond to correct the problems, but most of the solutions came from the City of Hyattsville.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked if the calls of service relate to the establishment.

Mayor Hollingsworth stated that the data they compiled related to the area and the specific establishment; that they understand the establishment calls on behalf of the neighborhood; that the problem is street wide; that they try to turn away those that cause the problem.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that they are already in the community in their current space; that they are moving 500 feet; that she doesn't understand wanting to prevent them from moving to a different space.

Mayor Hollingsworth stated that they are making efforts for security if they transfer; that they weren't concerned with these things at the different location; that she hasn't seen the effort on their part until now; that she understands the position the Board is in; that they can fight the establishment moving elsewhere if need be.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that he understands the concerns for peace and safety; that he understands the mayors concern; that the calls of service were for 113 suspicious vehicles, 2 disorderly conduct, 24 loitering, 50 traffic stops and 9 accidents; that the allegations have nothing to do with Lee's Restaurant; that they want to move from under the thumb of the Melhis and the Singhs; that they don't want to be there anymore; that they believe moving and providing a new clean liquor store will solve the problem.

Mr. Camacho asked if they would own the building or lease.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that they are leasing.

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

Ms. Norman asked if the lease is expired at the current location.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that they have not worked to negotiate a longer lease at the current location; that they want to get away from the Landlord; that the family that owns the property was associated with Tick Tock and they want to get away from all the negative business.

Ms. Norman asked if they will be more involved with the community if they move.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that they will be better involved with the community; that it is hard to find a place to relocate a Class A license; that they are willing to do what is needed to move.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked why they haven't been involved with the community and have they done anything.

Ajay Sharma stated that in 2011 they were told the Police Department couldn't work there anymore because the Landlord had gotten in trouble; that they have loyal customers.

Ms. Turpin Forbes asked if they had attended community meetings.

Amit Bharat stated that they had attended the meetings, but they were not active participants.

Ms. Norman asked if they would agree to have an off-duty police officer on the premises.

Amit Bharat stated yes.

Ajay Sharma stated yes.

Ms. Norman stated that she proposes that they approve the application with the condition the business work with the City of Hyattsville to determine the days and hours of having a uniformed police officer on site.

Amit Bharat stated yes.

Ajay Sharma stated yes.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the transfer of location application with the condition the establishment have a uniformed police officer on site during the hours and days agreed upon with the City of Hyattsville, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Christopher M. Burke, Executive Vice President, Joseph K. Mburu, Executive Vice President, Martin R. Resnick, President for a Class B (BCE), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Martin's, Inc., **t/a Martin's Crosswinds**, 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, 20770, transfer from Martin's, Inc., t/a Martin's Crosswinds, Kimberly Anne Resnick, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Christopher Burke stated that he is a resident of Crofton.

Joseph Mburu stated that he is a resident of Ellicott City.

Martin Resnick stated that he is a resident of Owings Mills.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that this application is just a transfer of ownership; that all the information in the application is true and correct; that there will be no changes in the operation of the business; that the applicants have all read and understand the Rules and Regulations.

Christopher M. Burke stated that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the acceptable forms of identification; that the bartenders have all received their Alcohol Awareness Certification; that there is always a manager in the event space.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the transfer application, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Norman, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Kai Tang, President, Meng W. Wang, Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of Cajun Crab Shack I, Inc., **t/a Urban Crabshack**, 15810 A Crain Highway, Brandywine, 20613.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Kai Tang stated that he is a resident of Rockville.

Meng Wang stated that he is a resident of Virginia.

Ms. Turpin Forbes stated that the applicants have appeared before the Board previously to apply for a license and unfortunately there were not enough licenses and too many applicants; that the Board has already qualified the applicants; asked if there have been any changes to the operation or application.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that there are no changes; that she understands the applicants were given an option for a Class D license when they applied previously, but they did not understand the offer that was made; that they would have accepted the Class D license previously if they understood.

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

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the application for a new Class D, Beer and Wine license, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Ernie R. Banks, Vice President, Heydi V. Calderon, President, for a Class B, Beer and Wine for the use of HEEJ, LLC, **t/a Charlie's Pizzeria**, 12760 Old Fort Road, Fort Washington, 20744, transfer from CVA, Inc., t/a Charlie's Pizzeria, Sakellarios Alevrofas, President, Victoria Alevrofas, Secretary/Treasurer. Continued from January 28, 2020.

Heydi Calderon stated that she is a resident of Fort Washington.

Ernie Banks stated that he is a resident of Fort Washington; that he is a United States citizen; that he is a resident of Maryland; that they have twelve employees; that the application is true and correct; that he has not held a license for alcoholic beverages previously; that he has not been found in violation of any alcohol or gambling laws; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that the hours of operation are 11:00 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.; that he has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; named the acceptable forms of identification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that he understands the he must notify the Board of any changes to the business; that he understands he is responsible for any violations that occur even if he's not on the premises.

Heydi Calderon stated that she is a United States Citizen; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has not been found in violation of any alcohol or gambling laws; that she has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; named the acceptable forms of identification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the application for transfer of the Class B, Beer and Wine license, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Aster Haileselassie, Member/Authorized Person, for a Class C, GCC, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of DC Dynasty, LLC, **t/a National Golf Club at Tantallon**, 300 St. Andrews Drive, Fort Washington, 20774, transfer from PCC Beverage, Inc., t/a National Golf Club at Tantallon, Timothy P. O'Brien, President/Secretary.

Applicant is represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Aster Haileselassie stated that she is a resident of Virginia.

Robert Kim, Esquire stated that Ms. Haileselassie had a different address on her identification because when she completed the application, she changed the address online; that they need to amend the application for the correct address; that the correct address for Ms. Haileselassie is 1820 Potomac Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia, 22301.

Mr. Camacho moved to amend the application, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

Aster Haileselassie stated that she is a United States citizen; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has not been found in violation of any gambling or alcohol laws; that she has not

had an alcoholic beverage license revoked; that she has not held a license previously; that she does not have an interest in any other business that holds an alcoholic beverage license; that she has one percent interest in this license as a member; that she has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that she has received her Alcohol Awareness Certification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the acceptable forms of identification; that she will ensure her employees have received their Alcohol Awareness Certification; that she understands that she is responsible for any violations that occur on the premises even if she is not present.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the transfer application of the Class C, GCC license, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Norman, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Andrew J. Jones, Vice President/Treasurer, John Joseph Blum, Jr., President for a Class B (BCE), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Martin's Upper Marlboro, Inc., **t/a Martin's of Upper Marlboro**, 13905 Central Avenue, Upper Marlboro, 20774, transfer from Martin's Upper Marlboro, Inc., t/a Martin's of Upper Marlboro, B. Wayne Resnick, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

John Blum stated that he is a resident of Owings Mills.

Andrew Jones stated that he is a resident of Baltimore.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that this transfer is solely a transfer within the corporation; that there is not a change in operation; that this establishment is formerly known as Camelot; that the application is true and correct; that the applicants are familiar with the Rules and Regulations.

Ms. Norman asked when the name was changed from Camelot.

Andrew Jones stated that the business was always Martin's of Upper Marlboro officially; that most people just know it as and call it Camelot.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the transfer application of the Class B (BCE) license, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Kunjan B. Patel, Member/Authorized Person, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Swami Retailer, LLC, **t/a Bowie Liquors**, 6910 Laurel Bowie Road, Bowie, 20715, transfer from Siva, Inc., t/a Bowie Liquors, Bharatkumar R. Patel, President/Treasurer, Mary Catherine Antonetti, Secretary.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Kunjan Patel stated that she is a resident of Bowie.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that the information as amended on the application is true and correct.

Kunjan Patel stated that she has worked with her husband; that she wants to own her own liquor store in Prince George's County; that she has a Master's Degree; that she has read, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that she understands that she is responsible for any violations that may occur; that she will not be on the premises full time; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the acceptable forms of identification.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the application, seconded by Ms. Norman and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Turpin Forbes.

In the matter of Hui Sun Chon, Managing Member/Authorized Person, Laxmi Narendra Babu Vinnakota, Managing Member/Authorized Person for a Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Vinnakota Chon, LLC, **t/a Old Line Fine Wine Spirits and Bistro**, 11011 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, 20705, transfer from Wine Haus of Beltsville, LLC, t/a Old Line Fine Wine Spirits and Bistro, Lawrence B. Pendleton IV, Authorized Person.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Hui Son Chon stated that she is a resident of Fort Washington.

Laxmi Vinnakota stated that he is a resident of Fort Washington.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that nothing has changed with the application; that the information is true and correct.

Laxmi Vinnakota named the acceptable forms of identification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve.

Linda Carter, Esquire stated that Mr. Vinnakota owns a store in Washington, D.C. currently; that it is the biggest liquor retailer in the area except for Costco; that Mr. Vinnakota is very involved with the community; that he has donated 500 backpacks for school children, 200 coats for children, that he has participated in toy drive and a turkey basket for Easter; that every other month he hosts a BBQ for the community; that he has worked to cut violence; that in Beltsville he will continue to be a part of the community; that Mr. Vinnakota is a model licensee; that so often licensee's don't participate with the community, but Mr. Vinnakota wants to make things better.

Mr. Camacho asked if the plan is to keep the Bistro open.

Laxmi Vinnakota said they will keep the Bistro open for the foreseeable future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikole Bennett
Administrative Aide

Adjourned: 1:37 p.m.