July 25, 2023 9200 Basil Court Largo, MD 20774 Virtual Hearing

Present:

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, Chair
Armando Camacho, Vice Chair
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Tammie Norman, Commissioner
Dennis Smith, Commissioner
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Johnny Toles, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Leonard Vauss, Administrative Assistant
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

Start Time: 10:06 a.m.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms: At the Board of License Commissioners, we endeavor to be as efficient as possible in our virtual environment. Thank you for your patience. This is a public meeting subject to the Maryland Open Meetings Act so a truthful, transparent, open, and honest dialogue and record is required. As such, there are some formalities that will take place that may appear redundant but nonetheless are important and required to ensure compliance with the law.

Director Sheppard: During a typical hearing, there would be an exchange between the Board and the attorneys to exchange information as exhibits. Because this hearing is now virtual, we have implemented a 10-day rule to give those individuals here today, 10-days from today's date to add to the official record. I would ask that you email myself or the administrative staff of the BOLC. You may add information to the record long as it is information that has been discussed in this hearing.

REGULAR SESSION:

TRANSFER OF LOCATION

1. Jayamala Chinchode Reddy, Managing Member, Cindy Lou Slouch, Authorized Person, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Watkins Park Liquor MD, LLC, t/a Watkins Park Liquors, 12140 Central Avenue, Mitchellville, 20721, transfer from Watkins Park Liquor MD, LLC, t/a Watkins Park Liquors, 56 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, 20772, Jayamala Chinchode Reddy, Managing Member.

Represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

Ms. Carter states the current building is close to forty years old. The new building will afford existing customers more space, options, and a designated tasting area. There have been no violations during Ms. Reddy's tenure as a licensee for the last three years. The tentative opening date will be by the end of the year. All seven employees are Alcohol Awareness certified, vertical I.D.'s is not accepted, their youngest employee is twenty-five years old.

Ms. Carter asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

No opposition. There are five witnesses who testify in favor of this application.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the transfer of location for t/a Watkins Park Liquors, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

TRANSFER

1. Ka Ram Chung, Member-Manager, Peter L. Hong, Authorized Person, for a Class D(R), Beer and Wine for the use of JC's Organic Market, LLC, **t/a Yes! Organic Hyattsville,** 5331 Baltimore Avenue, Hyattsville, 20781, transfer from Yes! Organic Hyattsville, Inc., t/a Yes! Organic Market, Kathy Rachels, President, Gene M. Cha, Vice President, Gary M. Cha, Secretary/Treasurer, Peter L. Hong, Assistant Secretary.

Represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

There will be no changes to the mode of operation.

Mr. Hong is currently the store manager and has been a licensee for approximately three years. There have been no violations during his tenure as a licensee.

Mr. Chung will be seventy-five percent Member-Manager.

Mr. Kim asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

Copies of both applicants Alcohol Awareness certificates have been submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class D(R), Beer and Wine License for t/a Yes! Organic Hyattsville, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman.**

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Moises Juan Ramirez, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class B(R), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of J.F.J., Inc., **t/a Mexico Lindo Restaurant of Maryland**, 5652 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, 20710, transfer from J.F.J., Inc., t/a Mexico Lindo Restaurant, Julian Miguel, President.

Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

There will be no changes to the mode of operation, structural, or physical changes to the establishment.

Mr. Ramirez will be the one hundred percent owner of the corporation; he bought out Mr. Miguel.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B(R), Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Mexico Lindo Restaurant of Maryland, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman.**

After Board vote, the motion carries.

3. Pratap D. Patel, President/Treasurer, Terry L. Rosemond, Vice President/Secretary, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Diversity Forestville, Inc., t/a Penn Station Liquors, 5654 Silver Hill Road, District Heights, 20747, transfer from Divine, Inc., t/a Penn Station Liquors, Ilaben S. Rajpara, President, Nilesh Rajpara, Vice President, Archana Goswami, Secretary.

Represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

An amendment has been made to the application to reflect Mr. Terry Rosemond's middle initial is "K."

Mr. Patel will be the President, Secretary, and fifty percent Stockholder.

Mr. Rosemond will be the Vice President, Secretary, and fifty percent Stockholder.

Mr. Kim asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

Mr. Patel or Mr. Rosemond have never previously held a license.

Copies of both applicants Alcohol Awareness certificates have been submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Penn Station Liquors, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman.**

After Board vote, the motion carries.

4. Zandrique Ann Harrold, Managing Member/Authorized Person, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Milk & Honey Camp Springs, LLC, t/a Milk & Honey Camp Springs, 4531 Telfair Blvd, Suite 202, Camp Spring, 20746, transfer from Milk'd Restaurant, LLC, t/a The Real Milk & Honey Eatery & Bar, Monique Sneed, Member/Authorized Person.

Represented by Benjamin Carter, Esquire.

There will be no changes to the mode of operation.

There are currently thirty-eight employees, the front of the house is Alcohol Awareness certified.

Ms. Harrold has been in the restaurant business for three decades.

Mr. Carter asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Milk & Honey Camp Springs, seconded by Commissioner Sparkman.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS B(BBS), BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR

1. William Sheehan, Division Chief, for a Class B(BBS), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, t/a Prince George's Stadium, 4101 Northeast Crain Highway, Bowie, 20716.

Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Sheehan is currently the licensee for the Beer and Wine license.

Mr. Sheehan has been a licensee for some time now, he recently transferred the other Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission locations.

There will be no changes to the mode of operation, liquor will just be added since it was approved by the General Assembly.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the Class B(BBS), Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Prince George's Stadium, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**. **After Board vote, the motion carries.**

NEW- CLASS B(BH), BEER WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Kanwal Mac Singh, Member-Manager, Mario Lara, Vice President, for a Class B(BH), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of MAC Hotels, LLC, t/a Sonesta Select Greenbelt College Park, 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, Greenbelt, 20770.

Applicants do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

The applicants state there have been no renovations since Courtyard by Marriott occupied the property.

Mr. DeLoach advised the applicants to seek legal advice, because evidence must be provided to show the requirements for the statute have been met. The Board can't make a decision right now.

The Board has elected to continue the application hearing until the applicants can provide a certified accountant statement for the capital investments.

NEW- CLASS B(DD), BEER WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Otis L. Lonon, Managing Member, for a Class B(DD), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Big City Foods VI, LLC, t/a The Carolina Kitchen Sea & Soul, 10250 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway, Bowie, 20720.

Represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Lonon has been in the hospitality industry since 1995. He currently has four restaurants and will be adding two more within the next few months. There's been one violation at his Hyattsville location.

Ms. Carter states every employee undergoes a two-week training. All bartenders are Alcohol Awareness certified. Mr. Lonon has spent an excess of four million dollars on this location.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the Class B(DD), Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a The Carolina Kitchen Sea & Soul, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman.**

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Otis L. Lonon, Managing Member, for a Class B(DD), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Big City Foods VII, LLC, t/a Carolina Kitchen A Taste of Louisiana, 16208 Market Place, Unit #16208-16214, Bowie, 20716.

Represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Lonon has been in the hospitality industry since 1995. He currently has four restaurants and will be adding two more within the next few months. There's been one violation at his Hyattsville location.

Ms. Carter states every employee undergoes a two-week training. All bartenders are Alcohol Awareness certified. Mr. Lonon has spent an excess of four million dollars on this location.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the Class B(DD), Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Carolina Kitchen A Taste of Louisiana, seconded by

Commissioner Sparkman.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS B, BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Novlette Ashmeade, President, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of JCK Bar & Lounge LLC, t/a Jamaican Country Kitchen, 7572 Annapolis Road, Hyattsville, 20784.

Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge her right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.

Ms. Ashmeade is the sole owner; Jamaican Country Kitchen has been operating since February 2013.

Commissioner Camacho asked the standard questions used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Ms. Ashmeade would like to get a license for the adjacent space but doesn't have the proper permits to proceed today.

Ms. Ashmeade has elected to continue the application hearing until she receives a U&O for the adjacent space.

 Rhonda Hall, Managing Member, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Ladies First Cigars, LLC, t/a Ladies 1st Cigars, 6402 Coventry Way, Clinton, 20735. Represented by Traci Scudder, Esquire.

This establishment currently holds a Beer and Wine license.

Ms. Scudder states the concept for this establishment was a cigar lounge, recognizing there were none in Prince George's County. Ms. Hall has now modified her business concept and moving forward will be operating as a full-service restaurant. Ms. Hall has been working with the Health Department for the development of her kitchen. Customers are aware there's no more smoking inside. The permanent U&O was issued in August 2022; the U&O allows the establishment to operate as a restaurant and for retail sales of tobacco and other items.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor license for t/a Ladies 1st Cigars, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

3. Iris Vanessa Vargas, Managing Member/Authorized Person, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Birrieria La Poblana, LLC, **t/a Birrieria La Poblana**, 9544 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, 20772.

Represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Ms. Vargas is the managing member; Birrieria La Poblana has been operating since March 2023.

Birrieria La Poblana is an authentic Mexican food restaurant.

Customers have been asking for alcoholic beverages to accompany the food. The front of the house is Alcohol Awareness certified.

Ms. Carter asked the standard questions used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Commissioner Norman makes a motion to approve the Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor License for t/a Birrieria La Poblana, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

Adjourned: 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alecia L. Hughes
Administrative Aide BOLC