

August 28, 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
Ken Miles, Commissioner
ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey, Commissioner
Benjamin Rupert, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Shepherd, Director
Cristian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Kelly Markomanolakis, Administrative Assistant
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Nikole Bennett, Administrative Aide

Time: 10:10 a.m.

In the matter of a Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Sunnybrook Tavern**, Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 9001 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, 20744, JoAnn V. Nutter, President, Lisa L. Ingold, Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer, in place and stead of George J. Nutter Sr., Assistant Secretary, JoAnn V. Nutter, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Lisa Ingold stated that she is a resident of Columbia, MD; that she is registered to vote in Howard County; that she is a US resident; that she is the best friend of Mrs. Nutter; that she assists in inventory; that she is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that the liquor store is open 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. seven days a week; that the bar is open 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Thursday through Saturday and 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. the other days; that legally they can be open 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. every day except Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. at the bar; that the application is true and correct; that she is responsible if a violation occurs; that other than a recent infraction they have had an exemplary record.

JoAnn Nutter stated that she is a resident of St. Augustine, FL; that the infraction came from the boy that takes the deliveries; that he works there while unloading the truck in the morning; that he served someone that he did not ID; that he no longer works there during business hours; that he has been there for forty years; that he has had a stroke; that he only stocks the inventory; that he has difficulty communicating; that she is the owner; that she is on location one to two weeks a month; that she worked about eighteen hour days there when her father owned it before her. Mr. Camacho moved to approve Substitution of Corporate Officers, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of a Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Shoppers Food Warehouse**, Class D, Beer and Wine, 4720 Cherry Hill Road, College Park, 20740, Gary C. Jameson, President/Treasurer, Jennifer J. Newport, Secretary, in place and stead of Michelle M. Downs, President/Treasurer, Jennifer J. Newport, Secretary.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Gary Jameson stated that he is a resident of Fort Washington; that he is the Director of Loss Prevention for Shoppers; that he is there one day every four to five weeks; that he is in constant communication with the store; that the application is true and correct; that he is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that the legal hours are 6 a.m. to midnight for his store; that the POS system is set up so it won't accept alcoholic beverages past midnight; that it also prompts to scan the ID if alcohol is rang up.

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

In the matter of Amarjit Suri, Member-Manager, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Narendra Modi, LLC, **t/a C.D. Liquors**, 4945 Marlboro Pike, Capitol Heights, 20743, transfer from Nara Enterprises, Inc., t/a C.D. Liquors, Byung S. Lee, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant is represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Amarjit Suri stated that she is here for a transfer; that she is a resident of Waldorf; that she is a citizen of the United States; that she has been a resident for twelve years; that she has not been convicted of any felonies; that she has not violated any liquor laws; that she has never had a liquor license revoked; that she has never held a liquor license before; that she does not have an interest in any other business that holds a liquor license; that she will be there about ten hours a week; that her son will manage the store full time; that she has been through Alcohol Awareness training; that she is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; that you must be 21 to buy alcohol and 18 to sell; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that there are no changes to the application; that she understands she is responsible for any issues and must appear before the Board if there are any.

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

In the matter of Harjinder Singh, Member/Authorized Person, Sunanda S. Rana, Member-Manager, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Adelphi Spirits, LLC, **t/a El Toro Liquors**, 9107 Riggs Road, Adelphi, 20783, transfer of location from Chawla LLC, t/a #1 Liquors, 8400 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740, Rakesh K. Chawla, Managing Member, Kewal K. Bhagat, Authorized Person.

Applicant is represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Robert Kim requested to amend the application to reduce the space for off sale to 7,400 square feet.

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

Harjinder Singh stated that he is a resident of Germantown; that he is a citizen of the US; that he has not been convicted of any felonies; that he has held a license in Rockville previously for three years; that he has not had any violations while on that license; that he is not on any other

licenses; that he does not have an interest in any other businesses that holds a liquor license; that his title is member/authorized person; that he will work at the store; that he is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; that he will ensure the employees follow them; that he has been through Alcohol Awareness training; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol and 18 to sell; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that other than the change to the square footage of off sale the application is correct; that he understands he is responsible for the business and must appear before the Board for any violations.

Sunanda S. Rana stated that she is a resident of Alexandria, Virginia; that she is a citizen of the United States; that she has never had a violation on a liquor license; that she has never been on a license before; that she has not had a liquor license revoked; that she does not have an interest in any other business that holds a license; that she will work about 10 hours a week; that she is the manager and member; that she has Alcohol Awareness Certification; that she is familiar with the Rules and Regulations; that she will ensure her employees follows them as well; that she will have approximately ten employees; that the building was formerly the Golden Bull; that the renovations will be significant and will cost approximately \$500,000.00; that it will take approximately six to nine months to complete; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol and 18 to sell; that she is responsible for appearing before the Board for any violations of the license or issues; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that no work has been done currently; that the issuance of the license will accommodate the public; that she doesn't believe it will disturb the peace and quiet; that she went door to door to collect signatures and asked residents their opinions; that three bus lines go through this area making it very accessible; that she will have employees come in and train on the register and stocking; that she will have security during and after hours; that the security will be employed by them; that they will be there certain hours and are currently working it out; that she will be open 9:00 a.m. to midnight every day except Sunday; that she does not have any prior experience in alcohol sales but Mr. Singh does.

Blanca Molina stated that she is resident of Silver Springs; that she is here to support El Toro; that she used to go to Langley Park for alcohol, but now it's too dangerous to go in the evening; that she buys beer and wine; that she has lived in the area for eight years.

Blanca Peña stated that she is a resident of Silver Springs; that she is here in support of El Toro; that she could go there for alcohol for parties on Saturdays.

Juan Fuentes stated that he is a resident of Hyattsville; that he is here in support of El Toro; that he is a neighbor of the location for twenty years; that it would be good for it to be open again and he can go and buy from them.

Larry Sled stated that he is a resident of Adelphi; that he is here in opposition; that he is a member of White Oak Manor Citizen's Association; that the neighborhood is about ½ mile away from the location; that he is here in his personal capacity not as the association; that the notification is inadequate; that the notice was posted on the restaurant side door, not on the liquor store side; that it leads you to believe that it is a restaurant opening not a liquor store; that a restaurant and a liquor store are different classes; that Class B, restaurant, would be on sale only; that the liquor store side is for off sale; that the signs posting was misleading; that it makes you believe the license is for the restaurant not the liquor store; that off sales are consumed by transients in the wooded lot and parking lot and along the road; that there have been several deaths of homeless in connection with the liquor store; that public intoxication, public urination have seen a decrease; that panhandling has also decreased with the prior business closing; that there are a lot of elderly in the area; that they visit local businesses more since these issues have

been resolved; that there are elementary schools close by; a middle school ½ a mile away; that children and the community in the area should not be subjected to this; that he is aware that the new owners are not associated with the previous owners; that it will return to previous condition; that having security won't assist in surrounding areas; that the current landlord won't allow Prince George's County Police Department to come in that area; that he is against liquor stores in that area all together; that it is a family friendly area; that the last liquor store closed three years ago; that vagrants are still there, but it has decreased; that he didn't believe the community was interested in not; that he's not sure where the signatures came from; that by them altering the application are we sure of what they're doing; that regardless of the posting he is still in opposition; that he has been a resident for thirty-seven years; that he has seen growth and change; that he has tried to deal with the landlord; that the security of the area is his major concern; that he doesn't understand why the landlord won't allow Prince George's County Police Department to come in; that he doesn't understand what private security will do if the Police Department can't come in.

Sunanda Rana stated that security is very important to her; that they're family friendly people too; that they want it safe for their family; that she is not familiar with the issues with the security and landlord.

Gerald Daniels stated that he is a resident of Adelphi; that he lives across the street; that he has been a resident for twenty eight years; that he has been going to the shopping center; that he has seen the changes; that he recommends having El Toro open; that you have to miles away just for lottery tickets currently.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

In the matter of Brian Berman, Member/Authorized Person, Shravan Chincode, Member/Authorized Person, for a Class B+, Beer and Wine for the use of Srisai, LLC, t/a **Crescent Beer & Wine**, 15501 Annapolis Road, Bowie, 20715, transfer of location from Laurel Spirit, Inc., t/a Laurel-Bowie Liquor and Deli, 9830 Mallard Road, Laurel, 20708, Chang Baek Choi, President, Constance Arlene Duncan, Vice President. Continued from July 24, 2018. Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Shravan Chincode stated that he is a resident of Ashburn, Virginia; that he goes by Shawn; that he was here before the Board at the last hearing; that customers want to be able to purchase wines that they can't currently; that he wants to be able to sell seven days a week; that he understands he won't be able to sell off sale unless food is served at all hours; that they are working on figuring out the food preparation; that they currently can't sell port wines or those made in whisky barrels and people have been asking for them.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

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. Continued from June 26, 2018.

Applicant is represented by Charles Iweanoge, Esquire.

Zacharie Tankoua stated that he is a resident of Lanham; that he has been a resident for seventeen years; that he has been before the Board previously; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not had a violation on a liquor license; that he has not had liquor license previously; that he doesn't own any other business that has a liquor license; that he is the sole Member and Manager of VIP Stage; that he understands his responsibilities; that they haven't been open yet; that he doesn't even sell food currently; that the business doesn't occupy unit A or C, only B; that he will be there 30 hours a week; that he will have 15-20 employees; that some will be part time and some will be full time; that he will have chefs, bartenders, waiter/waitress; that he has reviewed the Rules and Regulations; that you must be 18 to serve alcohol and 21 to consume; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that they intend to apply for a Special Entertainment Permit in the future; that the entertainment will be patron dancing; that they will come in to eat and have a DJ; that the only people dancing will be patrons; that patrons must be dressed appropriately; that patrons can't come in nude; that they can't come in underwear and bra only; that they won't serve people that come in dressed that way; that there will be a full kitchen; that there will be hot and cold food; that the hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday and 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Sunday; that the menu focus will be quality African food, North, East, South and West; that the menu insert is for specialty food; that there will be formal seating, tables and sofas; that there will be a VIP area; that it is his dream to provide a venue that has not been here before; that the VIP area is for a private party; that it will provide one on one confidence; that there will be places for people to eat and have private conversations; that no one in the private area will be dancing or nude; that dancing will only be on the dance floor; that the VIP seating is for 5-10 people; a couple for 10 people, more for 5 people; that they aren't completely open to the restaurant; that they are half open and the view is blocked some; that there are curtains, yellow in color; that for VIP you have to book reservations in advance; that he understands there can be no VIP seating without a Special Entertainment Permit; that he understands he's responsible for following the Rules and Regulations; that he is responsible for his employees following the Rules and Regulations; that he is the only restaurant in the area to provide special African food; that not only is it from the North and South, but it is a magnificent venue that people can come and have meetings with good food and good drinks; that he intends to invite the Fire Department when they're open; that once they're open he'll reach out to the community; that during the last election he had people request to hold campaign meetings there; that he is off of Kenilworth, about one block away, a couple blocks away; that there are no grocery stores; that a Spanish restaurant opened recently a few buildings down; that there isn't anything else there; that you must get off of Kenilworth to get there or see it; that he has small signs; that a map can take you there; that they don't have as set advertisement plan; that he has experience in the restaurant industry; that when was in school he worked at Dancing Crabs.

Michael Kupi stated that he is a resident of Bowie; that he is the Chef at VIP Stage; that he helped in the preparation of the menu; that the concept is for food from different countries like Italian and Ethiopian too; that they will rotate every day to two or three days to focus on certain countries; that the menu will change; that he was hired in December or January; that he has a Bachelors in Culinary Arts and Business; that he studied overseas; that he has other restaurants he's set up and made the menu; that he wants to research the food and techniques; that some food he's not as familiar with; that the menu and descriptions will change.

Zacharie Tankoua stated that he has had the lease for nine months currently; that he is funding the lease personally currently; that he is not holding events currently.

Laila Riazi stated that she is a resident of Cheverly; that she represents the Town of Cheverly; that she submitted a letter prior to the hearing; that she wants the Board to take in the history, isolation and the character of the location; that it is out of the way; that even if VIP Lounge and Super Fuego are not externally connected they are close; that it is a dark area with little lighting; that parking is out of the way; that the business next door has a similar operation; that she finds it odd that Mr. Tankoua is not aware of the business next door or their issues; that the VIP areas are odd; that a banquet facility was how it was portrayed and those are usually family friendly, but the odds don't go with that idea; that they want a dance hall permit; that to her understanding VIP doesn't mean family, it is separate; that she wants to know what role employees play, what kind of private conversations will take place, will the tables be moved to accommodate dance, what happens with the license if no food is served since there are no tables or will alcohol not be allowed at these times; that the community was not asked about their opinion; that after they've finished at these locations people leave those areas and go into the communities and the Police Department has to step in; that the hours are not compatible with having children or families; that they have questions on parking, the meal requirement, lighting in parking lot and in front of the business, can patrons bring in their electronic devices because they've been controlled next door by not allowing people to bring them in, what constitutes VIP, how are employees involved; that she wonders what the marketing platform is, if it will be more focused on "Bring your family" or "Closed off for private entertainment"; that the area creates the feeling of being hidden. That the officials in the Town of Cheverly have not been approached by the applicant in any way; that the last time she went to that area was about four weeks ago at 10 pm; that there may be new restaurants in the area she's not aware of, but they close at normal family friendly times; that a family wouldn't go to this industrial area off the main roads; that it is a dark area at night; that there is a towing company, a storage facility and a bakery in that area; that they aren't against growth or new restaurants, but the information presented contradicts that that's what this is.

David Warrington stated that he is a resident of Cheverly; that he is representing the Mayor's Council; that they are in a unanimous position to oppose this business; that they have been complaining since 2011 when Fuego opened; that patrons from these places migrate to other areas and then their Police Department have to respond even though it's not in their corporate limits; that Ms. Riazi drafted a letter and the mayor and council supported it unanimously to be presented; that a flyer initially informed him of what was going on and he sent in an undercover officer as a patron; last saw Fuego open May 14th; that he has never had contact with the applicant; that they never attempted and he didn't either; that the business is not located in Cheverly, it is outside of their jurisdiction, but it is in the variance on the edge of town and they do have some voice.

Zacharie Tankoua stated that the capacity is 150 people and the parking supports that.

Malcolm Augustine stated that he is a resident of Cheverly; that he is in opposition; that it is an industrial zone; that there has been no attempt to reach out; that the only thing there is a night club or strip club; that there have been no advertisements which puts a damper on a restaurant in this area; that Fuego has done lots of advertisements; that the owner hasn't done market research; that this will give an establishment that had their license revoked a liquor license right next door; that he is here as a single resident; that he lives approximately one mile away directly; that there

has been lots of conversation in the community about this in opposition; that he us unhappy with the business that is next door.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

Mr. Camacho moved to deny the request to issue the license, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Kelsey, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Hugo A. Bonilla, Owner, Patricia E. Martinez Rivera, Manager, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Riviera Tapas Bar, LLC, **t/a Riviera Tapas Bar**, 6108 Rhode Island Avenue, Riverdale, 20737.

Applicant represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Robert Kim requested to amend the application from a Class B License to a B (DD).

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

Robert Kim requested to amend the application to 2,259 square feet of on sale.

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

Hugo Bonillo stated that he is a resident of Hyattsville; that he is a permanent resident, that he has been a resident of Maryland for the 12 years; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has not been in violation of any liquor laws; that he has not had a license previously; that he has not had a liquor license revoked; that he is part owner of a restaurant in Silver Springs; that they have been open 7 years; that he is not on the liquor license; that he has not owned a business in Prince George's County with a license previously; that he has his Alcohol Awareness Certification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to sell; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that he is a Chef by training; that he has a menu with starters, entrees and more; that he's not open yet; that he is about 1 month away from opening; that he will cook food; that other than the changes requested there have been no other changes to the application; that he understands he has an obligation to answer any questions of the Board; that he is the Chef at the restaurant in Silver Springs too and will split his time between the two; that he has never been convicted of a crime.

Patricia Martinez stated that she is a resident of Hyattsville; that she is a United States Citizen; that she has been a Maryland resident for about 15 years; that she is familiar with the neighborhood; that she has talked to them and been to the town hall meetings; that neighbors have visited and are happy they are moving in; that there is a liquor store in the area; that other options are limited; that it is a historic area, but they are bringing in something new; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has never violated any liquor laws; that she has never had liquor license before; that she doesn't have an interest in a business in Prince George's with a liquor license; that she will be full time; that she has restaurant experience; that she has had her Alcohol Awareness certification; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the five acceptable forms of identification; that there are no other changes to the application; that she understands she is responsible for questions the Board has; that the average daily receipt of food and non-alcohol sales must be at least 50%; that she expects it to be around 25%; that she is still working on permits; that the Health Department approval is pending; that the capacity is 75 people; that there will be a full kitchen with a Chef, menu and wait staff; that she understands they must file a monthly report; that Riverdale Park is in support of them and offers financial support to new businesses.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

In the matter of Kwok F. Cheung, President, Hua L. Cheung, Secretary/Treasurer, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of K-Gogi Grill, Inc., **t/a Kogi Underground**, 14722 Baltimore Avenue, #101, Laurel, 20707.

Applicant is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Linda Carter requested to amend the application to a B (DD) and make Kwok Cheung the only applicant and licensee.

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

Kwok Cheung stated that he is a resident of Burtonsville; that he is a United States citizen; that he is registered to vote; that the business will be an Asian grill; that he has another business in Montgomery County; that they have had 2 violations on their license; that he implemented changes to correct the violations; that he added a poster and additional Alcohol Awareness training; that he also went to ALERT which is Montgomery counties Alcohol Awareness training; that the violations were in 2011 or 2012; that he has been in business seven years; that they were in the first year or so of being open when they received their violation; that they have taken TAM and ServSafe training; that they are currently under construction and hope to be open in 4-6 weeks; that they have Korean BBQ; that they have nineteen cooktops that have a grill in them; that they serve lunch and dinner as all you can eat protein and accompaniment; that it is \$16 at lunch and \$20-24 at dinner; that he understands he must prove he sells more food than alcohol; that at their current restaurant they sell about 18% alcohol; that they have 30 employees in Burtonsville and expect to have about 20 at this location; that all employees are Alcohol Awareness Certified; that he requests to change the hours of operation to Monday through Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., Friday through Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m..

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

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

In the matter of Emily Bruno, Managing Member, Julie C. Verratti, Managing Member, Jeffrey Ramirez, Managing Member, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Citizens Brewing, LLC, **t/a Denizens Brewing Company**, 4550 Van Buren Street, Riverdale Park, 20737.

Julie Verratti stated that she is a resident of Silver Springs; that she is here to apply for a license; that they want to open a beer pub; that they hold a liquor license in Montgomery county; that they will be open 7 days a week 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.; that it will be a restaurant and brewery; that she is a managing member; that she has been a resident of the state of Maryland since 2010; that she has had a license previously; that she does have an interest in another business that holds a license in Silver Springs; that she has never had a license revoked that she has never been

convicted of a felony; that there are 175 seats; that she will be there personally 20 hours a week; that the other licensees will be there 40 hours a week; that she is familiar with, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that she understands she is responsible for any violations; that she must notify the Board of any changes to the business; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that their company policy is you must be 21 to serve; named the five forms of acceptable identification; that they hope to be open by 2019; that they do a lot of fundraising activities; that they like to give back.

Emily Bruno stated that she is a resident of silver springs; that she is responsible for staff training; that the staff will ID anyone they are serving for the first time; anyone that appears under 40 will be checked; that if they have a vertical ID their policy is to take the license to a manager to approve; that other states have vertical licenses; that they have had and passed three underage checks in Montgomery county since 2014; that she held a license previously in Montgomery County; that she will split her time between the two; that there will be a management team in place; that she has never violated any gambling laws; that she has not been convicted of a felony; that she has never violated any liquor laws; that she is familiar with, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that she must notify the Board of any changes to the business; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that their company policy is you must be 21 to serve; named the five forms of acceptable identification.

Jeffrey Ramirez stated that he is a resident of Washington, D.C.; that he held a license previously in Montgomery County; that he has never violated any gambling laws; that he has not been convicted of a felony; that he has had a DUI in Colorado in 2011 previously; that he had probation for one year and has not had any issues since; that he is familiar with, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that he must notify the Board of any changes to the business; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that their company policy is you must be 21 to serve; named the five forms of acceptable identification.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

In the matter of Beatrice Asafor Atowo, Member, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Miya Lounge, LLC, **t/a Restaurant Miya Lounge**, 4715 A Sellman Road, Beltsville, 20705.

Applicant is represented by Kevin Lee, Esquire.

Mr. Lee requested that the name be changed to t/a Miya Lounge.

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

Beatrice Atowo stated that she is a resident of Beltsville; that Miya Lounge is the trade name that Miya Lounge, LLC is the business name; that she is a member; that she doesn't have any other interest in another business that holds a liquor license; that she is a US citizen; that she is a resident of Prince George's County; that she is a registered vote; that she has never been convicted of a felony; that she has never violated a liquor law; that she has never violated a gambling law; that she has never violated any US law; that she has never held a liquor license before; that the hours will be Sunday through Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to midnight, Thursday and Friday 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.; that there are approximately 27 seats and 8 seats in the bar; that there is no entertainment; that she has internet music in the

background; that there is no dance floor; that her restaurant is on the 1st floor of a shopping center; that she is off of Route 1; that the shopping center has more than 50 parking spaces; that she will have security; that she will have cameras inside and at the front and back; that there is a door in front and in back; that she intends to get the Police Department involved to not have patrons be disruptive; that there are no speakers; that she will hire security personnel; that she opened in July; that the people that come there are all different; that they have a good rating online, almost five stars; that they have an African menu that has beef with African spices, fish, grilled fish, goat, fufu, regular food and traditional food; that they are family oriented; that she will be the chef; that she has four employees; that her husband is a teacher in Prince George's County; that her likes cooking and so do her children; that they will help her; that she has passed inspections; that she will be there all times; that she understands she is responsible for any violations; that she must notify the Board of any changes to the business; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; that their company policy is you must be 21 to serve; named the five forms of acceptable identification; that she has taken her Alcohol Awareness certification; that the Saturday hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.; that she will not have entertainment; that what is labeled as a DJ booth is an elevated office; that the changing room is to change into the costume or uniform; that the VIP areas are for people who prefer to sit there; that it could be diplomats or whoever; that they are able to sit there for a fee; that they would tip extra, gratuity; people in VIP would have money and want to sit somewhere else; that servers don't make much so they'd like to have these tables; that the VIP areas are movable; that she wants the police to help make it safe; that she doesn't expect problems; that she has never owned another establishment; in Cameron she had a restaurant before in 2006; that she is familiar with the Rules and Regulations but the procedure is not the same as there; that the restaurant will accommodate the public; that they have been open for one month; that they have had a lot of interest; that it will be a family place; that people can come there after church on Sunday; that people requested her to be open on Sunday and that's why she chose to; that she didn't know she needed to reach out to the community; that she didn't realize there was opposition; that there are no speakers; that it is internet music; that maybe there is one speaker; that it's a box; that it's at the front of the bar with a computer.

Jan Hooks stated that she is a resident of Beltsville; that she lives directly behind the shopping center; that she has been there for 46 years; that the building was built in 1970's; that it was supposed to be office suites; that since 2014 Miya Lounge, two churches, and African store have been added; that to the shopping center next door they have added a title company, braiding salon, and more stores; that there haven't been many problems or noise; that the types of occupants have changed; that there was a variance when it was built; that the back door is less than 50 feet away from her property; that she hears them taking the trash out in the evening; that she hears people coming and going; that she has not heard music; that there has been parking added to the ally; that children used to play there from the church on Saturday and Sunday; that since parking was added people can no longer walk there; that with a liquor license there will be more people, more noise and it will affect the quality of life; that there are successful restaurants across the road without liquor licenses; that a liquor license is not necessary.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

Kent Penrod stated that he is a resident of Beltsville; that he is in opposition; that he lives adjacent to Miya Lounge; that he has been a resident for 35 years; that behind the shopping center is all residential; that there are 30 parking spots in the shopping center with 5 businesses

and 2 churches; that it will add traffic; that churches do a lot of child outreach; that the paved area is an ally simply because he doesn't know what else to call it; that kids play there; that people walk for the busses down that road; that there are 2 50 gallon kitchen grease containers behind the business; that they pour kitchen grease down the sewer drains; that there didn't use to be rats before, but now there are.

Mr. Camacho moved to deny the application for a license due to the fact there is a church within 500 feet of the establishment, seconded by Ms. Kelsey and made unanimous by Mr. Miles, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Dwight Cousins, Owner, for a new Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Kingston Arbor, Inc., **t/a Kingston Arbor Restaurant**, 3500 East West Highway, Suite 120, Hyattsville, 20782.

Dwight Cousins stated that he is a resident of Bowie; that he grew up in Hyattsville; that he has been in Prince George's County his whole life; that he doesn't have an attorney; that he understands he has a right to one; that he doesn't want one; that the establishment is a Jamaican restaurant; that it is mainly carry out currently; that he took over the business; that they had a rental portion; that he converted that to a sit down restaurant; that he was approved previously; that he couldn't obtain the license because the documents weren't all in his name; that everything has been transferred now; that the landlord is aware; that he has not completed his Alcohol Awareness certification; that there was debt when he took over; revenue has increased; the business is growing; that it will be good for employees and residents; that he's never held a license before; that he has never been convicted of a felony; that he has not had any liquor license violations; that he has not had any gambling violations; that the application is correct; that the hours are 10:00 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday; that he wants to change the hours later; that renovations are needed; that he wants to replace the carpet with hardwood; that he wants to add a bar; that he needs revenue to make changes; that there are 100 seats; that he works there more than 40 hours a week; that he is familiar with, understands and will abide by the Rules and Regulations; that he understands he must notify the Board of any changes; that you must be 21 to consume alcohol, 18 to serve; named the five acceptable forms of identification.

Boards Exhibit #1 – Map – Presented by Cristian Mendoza.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikole Bennett
Administrative Aide

Adjourned: 2:05 p.m.