



CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

831 MASSACHUSETTS AVE, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

NICOLE MURATI FERRER
CHAIRPERSON | BOARD MEMBER

CHRISTINE A. ELOW
POLICE COMMISSIONER | BOARD MEMBER

THOMAS CAHILL, JR.
FIRE CHIEF | BOARD MEMBER

BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 adopted by Massachusetts General Court and approved by the Governor.

Board Members: Nicole Murati Ferrer (present); Christine A. Elow (present); and Thomas Cahill, Jr. (present at ~11:30 a.m.).

Staff Member Present: Dana Clarke.

Decisions: All decisions, unless otherwise stated, were 3-0, and by roll call.

Public Testimony Matters

1. Application #1144825 Jackson MacDonald, Turner Construction, for a Special Noise Variance from 12/21/24 – 2/9/25 (Alt. 12/28/24 – 2/16/25), at 121 Broadway, continuously from 6:00 p.m. on Fridays until 7:00 a.m. the following Mondays, for a total of three (3) weekends over the requested period, to erect a tower crane using hand and welding tools, cranes, trucks, generators, hoisting and heavy equipment. The variance is sought in the interest of public safety, as well as minimizing impacts to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Present: Jackson McDonald; and Joseph Kelley.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is to erect and set up a crane on Broadway and basically close the west and east service roads. Need to do it off hours to maintain access to the businesses in the area. This is around the clock work.

Decision: Granted with the conditions that: it cannot be exercised on 1/17-20/2025; a Sunday Work Permit is required; applicant must notify the License Commission via email at noise@cambridgema.gov at least 24 hours prior to exercising the variance; and once the variance is used three times, the grant is moot and the variance expires.

2. Application #1142406 CBS Food Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Tap 151 Bar and Grill, 151 North First Street, Common Victualer All Alcohol License #241918, to Add TV's Inside/Outside.

Present: Attorney Tyler Henseler; and Davidson Bettero.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is a corrective application to add 14 televisions on the inside of the premises and 3 televisions outside, which was part of the original plan but missed in the applications. The televisions outside is to show games but not necessarily play with the sound; all televisions will be played at background noise level.

Decision: Granted.

3. Application #1143107 Bred Cambridge, LLC d/b/a Bred, 730 Main Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #241460, to add Entertainment (DJ).

Present: Tambo Barrow.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This application is actually seeking to add more than a DJ; it seeks to add: recorded music above conversation level, dancing by patrons, live music with amplification, DJ, comedy show, karaoke, entertainer/hosted shows, and trivia. Right now only licensed for 3 televisions. The need is to enhance the customer experience; customers are asking what else they can provide. They are trying to help the culture and engagement of the area. Provide much more than people coming in and leaving. The hours of operation are meant to remain as is – 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Decision: Granted.

4. Consideration of Renewal Hearing Checkraise, LLC d/b/a Lord Hobo, 92 Hampshire Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11365, hearing to determine whether the 2025 license renewal was properly filed, or consideration of rejecting the 2025 license/renewal application, and/or cancellation for non-use, pursuant to G. L. c. 138, including but not limited to § 16A, 23, 64, 70 and 77 and G. L. c. 140.

Present: Daniel Lanigan.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: [first call at 10:30 a.m. – second call at 11:22 a.m.] On 11/1/24 renewals started, individualized emails with instructions were sent, the renewal deadline was 11/27/24 before 5:00 p.m. Licensees/businesses got an email in October letting them know about renewal start dates. On 11/1, and four other subsequent times, the system sent a notification to the applicant about the renewal due. On 11/1, 15, 22, 24, 25, 26 & 27 emails were sent to the licensee about submitting or completing the renewal. On 11/19, 22, 24, 25, 26 & 27 the licensee received notifications via comments on the record about the need to complete the renewal. A text message was sent on 11/27 @ 3:50.

The application was filed, incomplete, on 11/19/24. On 11/26/24, the business provided the ABCC renewal, and on 11/27/24 at 5:10 p.m. the fee was not yet paid and the renewal was denied. No

notification or payment or communication was received in terms of the requests for payment, notices about payment due, or the denial of the renewal.

The business has been closed and is not open or operating. It is unclear whether the person with a disclosed interest even continues to have an ownership interest since June 2024.

Decision: Ratified acknowledgment that the renewal was not properly filed, and hence, the license was not renewed pursuant to state law, including but not limited to G. L. c. 138, § 16A. In the alternative, the license renewal is rejected for failure to properly file it, failure to pay the license renewal fee, not having a right to occupy premises and non-use of the license. In the alternative the license is cancelled/revoked for failure to use or renew. Chair is designated to issue Statement of Reasons and send it forthwith.

5. Application #289371 Craft Beer Holdings, LLC d/b/a Windsor Tap, 92 Hampshire Street, has applied to transfer the existing Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11365 held by Checkraise, LLC at the same location with proposed seating for 88 and a total occupancy of 95 and hours of operation of 4:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Samuel Schwartzas proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: Approximately 1,942 square feet tap 15 and three bathrooms. Basement to be utilized for storage. There is one entrance and three exits to the premises.

Summary/Decision: After the posting of the agenda, we received communication from the applicant that they were withdrawing the application.

6. Application #1142670 Dip Dog, Inc. d/b/a Mamaleh's Kibitz Corner, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11386, for a Change of Manager to Alon Munzer.

Present: Alon Munzer.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Alon Munzer has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry, and has been manager of record on a liquor license before with no issues with local board or ABCC. Munzer provided TIPS certificate as proof of training in the safe service and sale of alcohol.

It was discussed that the reason Munzer stated they would only be on premises 10 hours per week is because the business is not currently (or expected to) operate beyond that amount of hours or during the approved hours of operation. They are operating as a "pop-up" only at this time. The bartender is basically the manager on site that takes care of the service of alcohol.

Decision: Granted pending submission of the name(s), phone number(s) and email(s) of the person(s) who will be in charge and managing the premises when Alon Munzer is not on site.

7. Application #1142551 Slawdog, LLC d/b/a State Park, One Kendall Square #300, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11490, for a Change of Manager to Evan Harrison.

Present: Evan Harrison.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Evan Harrison has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry, has not been an approved manager of record, and is familiar with the rules and regulations of the Board, the ABCC and the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with regard to the sale and service of alcohol. Harrison will provide TIPS certificate as proof of training in the safe service and sale of alcohol.

Decision: Granted.

8. Application #290369 Tomolly, Inc. d/b/a Charlie's Kitchen, 10 Eliot Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11679, for a Change of Patio closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and to add entertainment categories of – DJ (indoor & outdoor), dancing by patrons (indoor & outdoor), comedy, 2 dart boards, 1 pool table, 1 ping pong table, poetry readings, and comedy show.

Present: Derek Luangrath. Carolyn Rieder, abutter.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto; and letter regarding application.

Summary: The need for the additional entertainment is that more people are looking for it. They also want to reactivate the second floor by trying to bring more attention to it and make it a hang out and play spot. They intent to have the DJ on Fridays and Saturdays only between 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. to attract people to come out. They sent the hearing notice to abutters the day after receipt of notice of hearing date.

Dr. Rieder raised issues of noise concern, especially a to the DJ and any amplified entertainment on the outdoor area. Dr. Rieder has practice next door and they operate until Fridays at 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays until 6:00 p.m.

Decision: Granted with the condition that the outdoor entertainment, with any amplification including DJ, is approved only for Fridays and Saturdays only and must start after 8:30 p.m.

9. Application #1142277 Singh Dhaba, LLC d/b/a Singh's Dhaba, 1001 Massachusetts Avenue, for a new Common Victualler License with seating for 35 and maximum occupancy of 85, and proposed hours of 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. all days. lakhvir Singh as proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: Approximately 1,644 sq. ft., which includes front portion which is the seating area for guests. The back area is closed off from the front and used as kitchen/storage. There is an exit at the front and back of the unit. Speakers in the ceilings used for the background music.

Present: Attorney John Bacon; and Hardik Patel.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This application has gone through many changes, including capacity. The attorney represented they did not file the original application and the client may have incorrectly represented what they were seeking. The business is intending to operate at the location within the same hours and capacity as the previous operation. They are only seeking 35 seats with total occupancy of 39, and hours of operation of 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. all days. The manager of record will be Lakhvir Singh.

Decision: Granted, with amended total occupancy of 39, hours of operation of 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m., and manager of record Lakhvir Singh.

10. Application #1141312 Pollo 2Go, Corp. d/b/a Pollo 2Go, 169 Harvard Street, for a new Common Victualler License with 12 seats, a total occupancy of 25 and hours of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. all days. The premises is described as: There is only one room with public access; the Kitchen is locating on the left side of the business; on the right side is the bathroom and prep area; there are 3 exits and entrances; 1,800 sq ft.

Present: Miguel Santana; and Karen Santana.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is going into the old Pikalo space but seeking additional hours of operation as they anticipate more business in the summer. The floor plan submitted will also change as they are seeking to have the same number of seats as the previous operation at the request of the community.

Decision: Granted, with amended maximum occupancy 30 pending submission of updated floor plan.

11. Applications #1141252, 1140873, 1140870 and 1140869 Clover Fast Food, Inc., 496 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler Malt License #11599, 1 Oxford Street, Common Victualler License #12320, 1326 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler License #11431, and 302 Elm Street (a/k/a 1075 Cambridge Street), Common Victualler License #11460, for a Change of Officers/Directors and a Change of Stock Interests.

Present: Attorney Andrew Upton; and Julia Wrin Piper.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Clover is a vegan vegetarian concept which grew but too quickly which led to debt and bankruptcy. They recently emerged from bankruptcy, now there are many new minority investors, and the old founder or shareholders are either minimal owners or not at all. They have submitted a waiver for the disclosure of personal information due to the number of investors. Julia Wrin Piper who

was named during the bankruptcy procedures to the role of CEO represented they were going to get the company back on its feet and up to regulatory standards. There are no changes to the manager of record or aspects of the locations.

Decision: Granted.

12. Application #1142517 Shogun Japanese Steak House, Inc. d/b/a Bisuteki Japanese Steak House, 777 Memorial Drive, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11366, has applied for a Change of Stock Interests.

Present: Guang Long Lin.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is a corrective application to add one more person with a 10% interest to the beneficial interest holders. There are no changes to the operation.

Decision: Granted.

13. Application #1140395 Wonderful Mart, Inc. d/b/a Wonderful Mart, 2368 Massachusetts Avenue, to transfer the existing Wine and Malt Package Store License (#179649) held by Sheger Ethiopian Food Market, LLC at the same location with proposed hours of 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. all days. Luis Javier Marte Guzman as proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: ground floor retail and basement storage, 1 front entrance and 1 side exit. Applicant is also applying for a Common Victualler License for 10 seats and proposed hours of 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. all days.

Present: Attorney Ka-yung Wong; and Luis Javier Marte Guzman.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Luis Javier Marte Guzman will be the sole owner. Guzman has about 10 years of experience in the alcohol sales industry. Guzman has not been manager of record and is familiar with the rules and regulations of this Board, the ABCC and the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with regard to the sale and service of alcohol. Training on safe service and sale of alcohol practices has been on hand and will obtain outside training.

Decision: Granted.

14. Application #265972 Urumqi Kitchen, LLC d/b/a Jahunger, 272 Brookline Street, holder of Common Victualler License #238918, to add Wine and Malt Beverages to the license. The applicant is currently approved to operate from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday with seating for 44 inside and 9 patio seats on private property. Dilimulati Subati as proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: 1,750

square feet of total space on ground level. 1,750 square feet of basement storage space. Kitchen is around 750 square feet. 2 bathrooms. Includes outdoor area on the private way.

Summary/Decision: Matter will be rescheduled – abutters were not notified.

15. Application #1142578 300 Mass Ave MK, LLC d/b/a Verveine Café & Bakery, 298 Massachusetts Avenue, holder of Common Victualler License #255186, to add Wine and Malt Beverages to the license. The applicant is requesting hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. all days with seating for 24 inside, an inside occupancy of 48 and 22 patio seats on private property with a total patio occupancy of 28. Monica Glass as proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: Approximately 1,750 sq. ft. on the ground floor including kitchen, dining area, standing room, and 300 sq. ft. patio on the private way. One main entrance/exit to outside in the front of dining area. A second exit to the main building is in the back near the kitchen.

Present: Attorney Jon Aieta; and Monica Glass.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The business has been open for approximately 9 months. They are on the retail floor downstairs of a mixed use building which has Takeda upstairs. Glass is an award winning pastry chef who partnered with Ken Oringer on this venture. Glass has about 10 years of experience in the food and beverage industry, in MA, NY and PA. The current concept is a Parisian inspired café; a community space where everyone is welcomed, good feelings, food and connections are made. Aside from adding alcohol they also seek to change the closing hour to 10:00 p.m. to be able to expand to a more formal dinner service, as there is a demand on site. The employees of the building and area provide a large customer base, and this would be an additional dining option. The business is becoming more of a destination spot. Currently and the continued plan is for all the food to be gluten free and they will keep that with gluten-free wine and malt. The opening hours for alcohol would be 8:00 a.m. Monday-Saturday and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

Glass has not been manager of record and is familiar with the rules and regulations of this Board, the ABCC and the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with regard to the sale and service of alcohol. Glass provided TIPS certificate as proof of training in the safe service and sale of alcohol.

Decision: Granted with amended food opening hour of 8:00 a.m. all days, and amended alcohol opening hour of 8:00 a.m. Monday – Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday.

16. Disciplinary Ludin Landscaping for alleged violations at 71 Hammond Street on November 11, 2024 of Cambridge Municipal Code 8.16.081 and Leaf Blower Regulations: operating without a permit, 8.16.081.3(6); operating non-compliant equipment, 8.16.081.3(9); improper use of leaf blowers, 8.16.081.3(10) and Regulations 7, 13, 19, and 22-24.

Present: Investigator Joseph Kelley; no one appeared for Ludin Landscaping.

Documents Considered: Hearing notice and documents attached thereto; written testimony from complainant; and file.

Summary: On November 11, the complainant reported hearing very loud leaf blowers and when they looked, they observed the use of multiple leaf blowers within 10 feet of each other. The make and model of the leaf blowers used could not be determined from the pictures. Ludin Landscape is not permitted to operate leaf blowers in the City of Cambridge and was sent a Cease and Desist Order in August of 2021, following similar reports at this same location. To date, Ludin Landscape has not applied for a Leaf Blower Permit. Upon further review of the record, it was also discovered Ludin Landscape had also been sent a cease and desist in 2019.

Decision: Violation for operating without a permit, issued \$300 fine; violation for simultaneous use of leaf blowers within close proximity of each other, issued \$300 fine; and \$100 fee for failure to appear at the hearing. Business must pay total fine of \$700.

17. Consideration of Renewal Hearing Fat Heady, LLC d/b/a Whitney's, 37 JFK Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #99534, to consider rejecting the 2025 license/renewal application, and/or suspension, cancellation or revocation of license for operating without workers' compensation and liquor liability insurance, failure to provide information when requested/required, and false statements on the renewal application, pursuant to G. L. c. 138, including but not limited to §§ 12, 16A, 23, 64, 70 and 77, 204 C.M.R. 2.01(8), and Board's Rules 2, 5B.9, and 14.

Present: No one appeared for Fat Heady, LLC.

Documents Considered: Hearing notice and documents attached thereto; and file.

Summary: [Second call at 11:33 a.m.] On 11/1/24 renewals started, individualized emails with instructions were sent, the renewal deadline was 11/27/24 before 5:00 p.m. Licensees/businesses got an email in October letting them know about renewal start dates. On 11/1, and four other subsequent times, the system sent a notification to the applicant about the renewal due. On 11/1, 15, 20, 25, 26 & 27 emails were sent to the licensee about submitting or completing the renewal. On 12/1, an email regarding insurance was sent. On 12/5 visited by investigator re: insurance. On 12/12 notice was sent as to the instant hearing.

Via the system, emails to complete the renewal and provide insurance were sent on 11/27, 12/3, 12/5. A text message was sent 11/26 @ 4:41 p.m. The application was submitted on 11/27 (day of the deadline) at 1:58 p.m. To date, no proof of insurance has been provided and no response to the latest communication on 12/11 stating that failure to provide proof of insurance will result in notification to DIA and hearing. Per information and belief, the business has been ordered to shut down and evicted. Therefore, there is no right to occupy the premises and that information was also not provided with the renewal, but instead in a phone call to the License Commission.

Decision: Renewal denied as the business has no right to occupy the premises, failed to disclose all matters in their renewal application, failed to provide proof of and/or are operating without workers' compensation and liquor liability insurance, and there are now questions as to the character and fitness of the applicant. In addition to and/or in the alternative, the license is revoked/cancelled for operating without workers' compensation and liquor liability insurance and failure to have right to occupy premises. Chair is designated to issue Statement of Reasons and send it forthwith. Any licensee fee paid will be refunded.

Administrative Matters

Unless otherwise indicated, all the below listed matters were considered and voted upon by the Board without public testimony. They were decided upon by the Board members' individual review of the papers/applications/matter before them. The summary of what is considered is the identifying information of the matter as listed herein.

18. Application #1144135 Hussam Mallak for a new Hackney Driver's License.

Decision: Granted.

19. Application #1144940 One Bite and Bar, Inc. d/b/a One Bite and Bar, 1124 Cambridge Street, for a new Common Victualler license at a previously licensed location. Chang Fu Wang, manager of record of a premises described as: One small dining area, one small bar, one full kitchen, oven & grill area, two restrooms on the first floor, and one employee bathroom in basement. Three televisions. 85 sitting with maximum capacity of 100 and hours of operation of 6:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. The applicant also has a pending application to transfer the all alcohol liquor license held at the location which will be heard in January 2025.

Summary: This application was filed for the transfer of the existing liquor and common victualler license. However, due to the filing date and incompleteness of the alcohol transfer application, the matter could not be heard in its totality today. Hence, the business requested the Board consider the common victualler portion now since they are ready to open and have been paying rent. There are no changes to the hours, space or capacity. The alcohol portion will be heard in January 2025.

Decision: Granted.

20. Board Reconsideration [Matter Heard December 2, 2024] Application #1138797, Arrow Street, LLC d/b/a Arrow Street, 0 Arrow Street, Entertainment License #257794, for a new General On Premises All Alcohol License. Jessica White and proposed Manager of Record of a premises described as: 3,500 square feet located on the first floor theatre in the lobby (800 sq. ft.), the studio (900 sq. ft.), and the theatre (1,800 sq. ft.). *Even though asked at the hearing and they said no, the applicant now wants to add alcohol to a portion of the outdoor area. The new proposed premises description would be: 3500 sq. ft. located on the first floor theater in the Lobby (800 sq. ft.), the Studio (800 sq. ft.), the Theater*

(1700 sq. ft.), and an outdoor service area in the Entry (200 sq. ft.), using flexible seating and table layouts according to needs of performance / event.

Summary: After the posting of the agenda, the Board received a communication from the attorney that they now want to proceed as represented at the hearing. We asked them to submit an email from the client taking back this request. We did not receive any. With that said, the outdoor area was not considered at the hearing, and even though they have an entertainment license for the outdoor, there were some zoning issues raised by ISD when they reviewed this application.

Decision: Denied; Board's vote of December 2, 2024 stands and remains unchanged – outdoor alcohol service is not approved at this time.

21. Board Approval/Ratification – Changes Made to Records Via Renewal Application

Roche Bros. MidCo, LLC d/b/a Brothers Marketplace, 1 Broadway, Common Victualler License #57553, change of manager to Steven Dietzel.

President and Fellows of Harvard College d/b/a Harvard University/Adams House-Randolph Hall, 53 Bow Street, Innholder/Lodging House License #44905, increased room count from 144 to 145.

Young Americans, LLC d/b/a Dear Annie, 1741 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler Malt and Wine License #58187, increased capacity from 19 to 49 by adding gender neutral bathroom (capacity increase approved by ISD).

Decision: As to each, provided renewal was completed and all supporting documents for the renewal of the license has/is provided before December 20, 2024, changes ratified/granted, 2025 license will issue with the changes reflected.

22. Board Approval/Ratification – Extension of Hours on New Year's Eve – Per Board policy, only a maximum extension of one (1) hour is allowed for alcohol, and two (2) hours for food and entertainment. Under no circumstances can alcohol be served, sold or delivered after 2:00 a.m.

Decision Note: *Unless otherwise indicated, the requests were granted as filed and listed on the agenda. If they were denied or granted with conditions or modifications, the vote is indicated in italicized letters.*

47 Palmer, Inc. d/b/a Passim Folk Music and Culture Center, 47 Palmer Street, Common Victualler Malt and Wine License #11285, extending the closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Greek American Political Club Of Mass d/b/a Greek American Political Club, 288 Green Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11682, extending the closing hours from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. for alcohol and 3:00 a.m. for food and entertainment. *Granted with the condition that cannot admit any new patrons after 12:00 a.m.*

TPBHS Harvard, Inc. d/b/a The Painted Burro, 32 Church Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #236934, to extend alcohol and entertainment closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. *Granted with the conditions: must serve food until 1:00 a.m., may continue food service until 2:00 a.m., and cannot admit any new patrons after 12:00 a.m.*

Dante Alighieri Society of Mass, Inc. d/b/a Dante Alighieri Society of Mass, 41 Hampshire Street, Club All Alcohol License #11626, to extend closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. *Granted with the condition that cannot admit any new members or their guests after 12:00 a.m.*

Fat Heady, LLC d/b/a Whitney's, 37 JFK Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #99534, to extend the closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. for food, alcohol and entertainment. *Denied.*

Season to Taste Catering, LLC d/b/a Season to Taste, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11427, to extend the closing hour from 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Nutoshimo, Ltd. d/b/a The Mad Monkfish, 524 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11452 to extend the alcohol closing hour from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. *Granted, may also continue the food and entertainment services until 2:00 a.m.*

Decision: As to each, provided renewal of the license is completed and all supporting documents for the renewal of the license is/has been provided before December 20, 2024, and unless otherwise indicated, the request is granted/ratified as filed and listed on the agenda. If denied or granted with conditions or modifications, the vote in italicized letters is ratified.

23. Board Vote Disciplinary Matter [Heard December 2, 2024] Faro Cafe, LLC, d/b/a Faro Cafe, 5 Arrow Street, General on Premises License #257102 and Common Victualler with Entertainment License #167168, for allegedly operating over the licensed capacity and providing entertainment without a license, on October 18, 2024, in violation of M.G.L. c. 138, §§ 23, and 64; c. 140, § 183A, and Rules and Regulations of the City of Cambridge Board of License Commissioners Rules 2, 5.1, and 9, 10, 11, and 14.

Summary: I think this case was egregious. The number of patrons was double what is approved, the door person and the owner were not aware or had knowledge of the capacity at the time or what they are approved to operate at. The owner even thought they had approval for more than double. It is also unconscionable that the owner tried to play this down and as a "regulation" of the City or the Board. Capacity limits are not arbitrary limits or "preferences" or anything of the like. They are there to ensure public safety and are reached based on codes and regulations set by the state building code. The entertainment issue could be a warning in any other circumstance but to play ignorance of what the word DJ means is an insult to the Board. It is not a technical term and even if it were, ignorance of the law is not a defense. Moreover, in every application completed by the owner, who is the one claiming ignorance, the DJ is listed as a separate category of entertainment. The email that they mentioned at the hearing inquiring from the Board, they admit that the person was playing records, that is the colloquial and the dictionary definition of a DJ. There was a clear disregard for public safety and the nonchalant attitude is further evidence of that. Conquer with all of that. (Shojo – in line 2 days suspension)

Decision: Violation, 2 days suspension.

24. Consideration of Statement of Reasons [Matters Heard 12/2/24]

Burns Landscape & Snow Management, Leaf Blower Permit #218160, two violations of CMC 8.16.081.3(10), simultaneously operating multiple leaf blowers, on October 8, 2024 and October 22, 2024, at 145 Brattle Street. Issued \$300 fine per violation and \$100 hearing fee for failure to appear, for total fines of \$700. There will be notice to property owner who will also be cited for a disciplinary hearing if future violations are alleged.

Property Ownership of 145 Brattle Street, two violations of CMC 8.16.081.3(10), allowing the simultaneous operation of multiple leaf blowers, on October 8, 2024 and October 22, 2024, at 145 Brattle Street. Issued \$300 fine per violation for a total fine of \$600.

Decision: Approved as to all.

25. Consideration/Ratification of Renewals See attached lists.

Decision: With regard to record #99534 (Fat Heady, LLC), the renewal is denied/not approved per Board's vote of earlier in the meeting. As to the remainder, the renewals are approved/ratified to the extent that it is acknowledged the applications were filed and renewal license fees paid. To the extent the 2025 license has issued, the grant is ratified and it is acknowledged the license has issued as all supporting documents have been provided. To the extent the 2025 license has not issued, it is because not all required supporting documents have been received and the business is in peril of receiving a cease and desist letter effective January 1, 2025 until all required documents are provided and the 2025 license issues.

26. Consideration of Meeting Minutes December 2, 2024.

Decision: Approved.

One Day License Applications

Unless otherwise indicated, all the below listed matters were considered and voted upon by the Board without public testimony. They were decided upon by the Board members' individual review of the papers/applications/matter before them. The summary of what is considered is the identifying information of the matter as listed herein.

27. Application #1143394 Jason Alves, East Cambridge Business Association, for an all alcohol and entertainment license at 1310 Cambridge Street, on 12/22/24 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for a holiday market with recorded music and amplification system. Expected attendance – 1500.

Decision: Granted with the conditions that: must implement a system identifying of legal drinking age attendees; and the area where the alcohol is served, sold and consumed must be enclosed from the public way.

28. Application #1145151 Alexander Maciel for an all alcohol and entertainment license at 400 Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, on 1/11/25 from 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. for a dinner dance with patrons dancing, recorded music, DJ and light show. Expected attendance – 250.

Decision: Granted with the condition that must implement a system identifying of legal drinking age attendees.

29. Application #1145160 Bill Manley, Harvard Square Business Association, for an entertainment license at 1432 Massachusetts Avenue, on 12/21/24 from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. for a live jazz band. Expected attendance – 50.

Decision: Granted.

30. Application #1145313 Michael Jonas for an entertainment license at 680 Huron Avenue, on 1/11/25 with rain date of 3/8/25 from 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. for a swing dance with patrons dancing, live music and amplification system. Expected attendance – 125.

Decision: Granted.

31. Application #1145370 Jean Dany Joachim, Little Crepe Café, for a wine license at 102 Oxford Street, on 12/17/24 with a rain date of 12/18/24 from 5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. for a private party. Expected attendance – 25.

Decision: Granted with the conditions that: prior to the license being issued, must provide a guest list; only the persons on the guest list can attend and be present on the premises during the date and time of the event; and the business must remain close to the public during the date and time of the event.

32. Application #1145692 Kathryn Keeler for a malt, wine and entertainment license at 2 Gerry's Landing, on 1/11/25 with rain date of 1/12/25 from 4:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. for a farewell party. Expected attendance – 100.

Decision: Granted with amended start time of 5:00 p.m. per permission letter.

33. Application #1145779 Jason Alves, East Cambridge Business Association, for a hawker/peddler license for (50) vendors at 544 Cambridge Street on 12/22/24 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. to sell crafts and food.

Decision: Granted.

Matters Considered at the Meeting – Not Previously Posted on the Agenda

Unless otherwise indicated, all the below listed matters were considered and voted upon by the Board without public testimony. They were decided upon by the Board members' individual review of the papers/applications/matter before them. The summary of what is considered is the identifying information of the matter as listed herein.

34. Application #1144355 Asma Nofal d/b/a Olives Kitchen, 148-150 Western Avenue, for a new Common Victualler License at a previously licensed location. Ramzy Abu-Rubieh as manager of record of a premises described as: 700 sq. ft. corner location with patio area in the front on the private way. It has three doors, all three operational for two exits. One used as front entrance and one for kitchen access. Main dining room is separated by a counter top table where the cashier is located. One bathroom. There is a room that serves as an office and storage. There is no access needed to the basement. Sitting capacity inside of 18 with maximum occupancy of 24, and outdoor sitting capacity of 24. Hours of operation of 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. all days.

Decision: Granted.


By the Board of License Commissioners

Minutes Approved: January 15, 2025

Minutes Posted: January 16, 2025



Nicole Murati Ferrer, Chair



Thomas Cahill, Jr., Fire Chief



Christine Elow, Police Commissioner