

City of Somerville Licensing Commission

Regular Meeting by Remote Participation

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Monday,

April 11, 2022, at 6:00pm

Posted Monday, May 16, 2022 at pm

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm. Present were Commissioners, Lynch, Allen, and Thomas, Lt. Timothy Mitsakis of the Police Dept., Secretary to the Commission Lori Batzek, Assistant City Clerk, Bernabe Rodriguez, OSPCD Director, George Proakis, Director of Engineering, Brian Postlewaite, Members of the City Staff, Applicants and members of the public.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

A recording of this meeting is available online

Monday April 11, 2022 6:00pm

Published Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 4:00pm Revised Published Monday, April 11, 2022 at 12pm Final Revised Published Monday, April 11, 2022 at 3 pm

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Licensing Commission will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3839911741337011725.

If you wish to submit comments on any item on this agenda, you may send written comments by US mail to the Secretary of the Licensing Commission, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or by email to licensing@somervillema.gov. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the meeting, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Minutes of the Licensing Commission Regular Meeting, March 21, 2022.



2. Licensing Commission requesting that the following licensees report on the use of their All-Forms License.

License #	Business Name/DBA	Address	Type	Category			
AL18-000019	Eat at Jumbo's/ Sassafras	688 Broadway	All Forms	City Held - Citywide			
AL21-000008	Parla Mystic Corp./ Parla XXI	631 Assembly Row	All Forms	Assembly Row			
AL19-000044	Kathmandu Kitchen/ Himalayan Kitchen	40 Bow St	All Forms	Enhancement Area			
AL17-000321	Broadway BBQ LLC/ East End Grill	118 Broadway	All Forms	Private			
AL17-000069	Bergamot LLC/ Bergamot Restaurant and/or FAB	118 Beacon St	All Forms	Private			
WITHDRAWN							
AL17-000047	Bull McCabe Corp./ Bull McCabe's	366A Somerville Ave	All Forms	Private			
AL17-000035	Callen Hospitality, Inc./ The Dark Horse Public House	499 Broadway	All Forms	Private			
WITHDRAWN							
AL17-000027	Nucleo Sportinguista, Inc.	282 McGrath Hwy	All Forms	Private - Club			
WITHDRAWN							
WITHDRAWN							

Eat at Jumbo's/Sassafras – Grover Taylor appeared on this item. Mr. Taylor stated he reopened in December of 2020 and has been using his All Forms alcohol license since then. The Hours of Operation are currently in flux. Staffing is an issue. Commissioner Thomas asked when the last fees for the license were paid. Mr. Grover stated in November 2021 - \$3900. The secretary stated the last payment was received in 2019. Mr. Taylor stated he submitted payment to Andrea Torres and he was instructed to backdate the check to November 30th. The secretary will investigate this. Mr. Taylor stated he would be in City Hall tomorrow.

The commission made a Motion for no Action to be taken for Sassafras on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Parla Mystic Corp/Parla XXI - Councilor Vigorito appeared for this item. A letter was submitted to the commission on March 23rd about unforeseen delays. Their goal is to be open by May 1st and May 15th.

The commission made a Motion for no Action to be taken for Parla XXI on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed



Kathmandu Kitchen/Himalayan Kitchen – Jeremy Lockett appeared for this item. They are working with Main Streets to help fund raise for the renovation, and inflation has affected the total cost. They continue to fund raise to help with the additional costs. They are also in the process for permits for the construction. This license was approved by the Licensing Commission on 4/21/20 and by the ABCC on 8/9/21.

The commission made a Motion for no Action today for Himalayan Kitchen. A Status Report on this license will be required in 6 months, at the October 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting for Himalayan Kitchen on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Broadway BBQ LLC/East End Grill – Stephen Bandar appeared for this item. They are in the process of developing the property, but the project stopped due to Covid. Mr. Bandar stated he will be selling this license. Mr. Bandar estimates it will be 1 ½ to 2 years for the activation of this license.

The commission made a Motion for no Action today for East End Grill. A Status Report on this license will be required in 6 months, at the October 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting for East End Grill on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Bergamot LLC/Bergamot Restaurant and/or FAB - No one appeared for this item.

The Commission Continued this item until the next Licensing Commission Meeting. The Commission states the licensee must appear at the next meeting, May 2022, to show cause why this license should not be revoked on July 1, 2022 on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

The secretary stated Keith Pooler sent an email stating he could not seem to get through on the phone call.

Bull McCabe Corp/Bull McCabe's - Brian Manning appeared for this item. Mr. Manning is a co-owner. Mr. Manning states a letter of intent was submitted today and he is currently working on a purchase and sales agreement. Dan Haggerty is seeking to purchase this liquor



license and is currently looking for a location as well. A discussion was held on how to proceed with this license transfer.

The commission made a Motion for no Action today for Bull McCabe's. A Status Report on this license will be required in 6 months, at the October 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting for Bull McCabe's on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Callen Hospitality, Inc./The Dark Horse Public House – Patrick Grace appeared for this item. Mr. Grace states they closed due to Covid. This caused them to be in arrears on the rent and he couldn't reach an agreement with the landlord and closed due to financial difficulties. He is currently look for another location.

The commission made a Motion for no Action today for Dark Horse Public House. A Status Report on this license will be required in 6 months, at the October 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting for Dark Horse Public House on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Nucleo Sportinguista Inc. – Paulo Bizarria appeared for this item. Mr. Bizarria stated they closed at the beginning of Covid. The lease for the premises has ended and they are looking for a new location.

The commission made a Motion for no Action today for Nucleo Sportinguista. A Status Report on this license will be required in 6 months, at the October 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting for Nucleo Sportinguista on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

3. Notice from the ABCC regarding the approval of guidelines for outdoor alcoholic beverage service areas.

Chair Lynch stated there is a link included on the ABCC notification. He also asked how the commission would like to handle this matter in the future. Commissioner Thomas stated the process is taking away the responsibility of the commission that was given from the mayor's office and the onus is being placed on Engineering ISD on conditional approvals. He has



concerns about not seeing the floor plans. Chair Lynch stated the commission needs to have trust in the departments or persons who's signatures are required and expressed confidence in the existing procedure.

The commission made a note of this communication.

NEW

<u>Common Victualler</u> <u>Entertainment by Devices – Indoors</u> <u>Public Hearing</u>

4. Briannas Café Corp., DBA Briannas Café, 393 Medford Street, requesting approval of a Common Victualler and an Entertainment by Devices – Indoors license. (AL22-000006)

Alfredis Cartagena appeared for this application. This establishment is in Winter Hill located at the old Thurston Spa, and will be serving American breakfast and lunch. The Hours of operation will be 6am-3pm Mon – Sun. There will be 15 seats. Commissioner Thomas asked if this is ADA compliant. Mr. Cartagena didn't understand. Grubhub and Doordash will be used.

The commission approved this Common Victualler and Entertainment by Devices Indoors License on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Common Victualler

5. MJA Corporation, DBA Los Paisanos Restaurant, 62 Broadway, requesting approval of a Common Victualler license. (AL22-000004)

No one appeared for this application. This item was continued until the next Licensing Commission Meeting.

These are new owners.

EXISTING

Change of DBA Name
Change of Manager
Change of Officers, Stock or Ownership Interest



6. Bow Street Charm Corp., DBA Yoki Sushi & Chinese Restaurant, 16 Bow Street, requesting approval of a change of DBA Name to Fuki Japanese Cuisine; change of manager from Nicole Xu to Qina Chen; change of officers, stock or ownership interest from LianPei Li, President 75%, Nicole Xu, Director 25% to Chunlong Zhanh, President, 69%, Lixiang Huang, Treasurer, 15%, Lifei Huang, Secretary, 15%, Qina Chen, Director, 1%. (ALM21-000081)

Councilor Lu, Nicole Xu and Qina Chen appeared for this application. This corporation has merged. Councilor Lu stated the new manager has many years of experience in liquor license alcohol management. Ms. Chen is the manager and is TIPS Certified. The Change of Hours will be as follows: Mon – Closed, Tue-Sat: 11:30am-9:30pm & Sun: 12:30pm-9:00pm.

The Commission approved this Change of DBA Name, Change of Manager, Change of Officers, Stock or Ownership Interest and the Change of Hours on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Kindly Note: The Change in Stock requires a Newspaper AD and will be placed on the next Licensing Commission Meeting as an Administrative Item

Alteration of Premises Temporary Outdoor Seating

7.

License #	Business Name	Address	Parklet	Private	Sidewalk	Heating Element	Dog Area
ALM22-000041	Pizzeria Posto	187 Elm St	X				
ALM22-000040	Redbones	55 Chester St	X				
ALM22-000038	Machu Picchu	311 Somerville Ave	X		X		
ALM22-000037	Painted Burro	219 Elm St	X				
ALM22-000036	Celeste	21 Bow St	X	X			
ALM22-000034	Crispy Crèpe	51 Davis Sq	X		X		X
ALM22-000033	Bronwyn	255 Washington St	X				
ALM22-000027	Winter Hill Brewing	328 Broadway		X			X
ALM22-000025	El Potro	61 Union Sq			X		
ALM22-000021	Anna's Taqueria	236 Elm St	X				



ALM22-000018	PJ Ryan's	239 Holland St	X		X		
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Director of Engineering, Brian Postlewaite spoke on these Temporary Outdoor Seating applications:

Pizzeria Posto - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Redbones – Reduced from 8 tables to 7 tables. Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Machu Picchu - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Painted Burro - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Celeste - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Crispy Crepe – No Dog Area. Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Bronwyn – Structure removed. Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Winter Hill brewing - Post conspicuous signs for Dog Area. Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

ElPotro - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed



Anna's Taqueria - Letter required from abutting business. Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission approved this temporary outdoor seating on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

PJ Ryan's - Brian Postlewaite approves this application with the conditions stated. The commission conditionally approved this temporary outdoor seating, pending all department signatures, on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Director Postlewaite states both concrete and water fill barriers are acceptable. Chair Lynch states he wants Fire to inspect Heaters and requests Fire Prevention to be included in the Routing Process. Chair Lynch will discuss with the Law Department whether the property owner or the abutting business should be submitting a letter of approval.

LATE ITEMS

Innholders without alcohol

8. SHG Somerville Hotel LLC., DBA Cambria Boston Somerville, 515 Somerville Avenue, requesting approval of an Inn without alcohol license. (AL22-000009)

Meredith White and Jordan Warshaw appeared for this application. Ms. White states they have an opening scheduled for this Thursday. Because of a hectic construction schedule, they had an administrative oversight on applying for this license. Guests are booked for Thursday. Ownership and management of the Hotel was discussed and clarified. A grand opening will occur after about a month after the soft opening. They have a Temporary C of O. Guest will be allowed as of Wednesday. If the permanent C of O is not issued by Thursday, they will put their guests up at another hotel. 163 rooms are in the hotel. A restaurant on the 1st floor of the premises was approved for an Alcohol License in February. This applicant may go for an alcohol license in the future. OSPCD Director, George Proakis spoke on this application. Mr. Proakis states bringing a hotel to Somerville Ave. has been worked on for the late couple of years. He discussed the businesses in the area. He stated his support of this license. Chair Lynch suggested if they are applying for further licenses, to apply early. The secretary stated there is Entertainment by Devices listed on the application, which requires an AD in the newspaper. Mr. Warshaw stated the rooms will have TV's (163). Throughout the public area of the building, will be piped music. Mr. Proakis stated he believed from the conversation that there is a difference between the common area entertainment and the TV's in the rooms, and asked if that is correct. Chair Lynch stated that this is correct. Mr. Proakis stated that devices in the open area would need a license with an AD. Chair Lynch stated the TV's in the rooms can be operated, but not devices in the common area's. the secretary stated she was not sure on the procedure for the TV's in the rooms, and she would be happy to investigate this matter. Chair Lynch stated he would make the ruling to approved the TV's in the rooms and made a comparison to private offices in restaurant and stated hotel rooms are not in the common



area. The secretary stated no further application is needed for the Entertainment by Devices License, as it is on the application, and an AD will be placed in the newspaper to be heard at the next Licensing Commission Meeting, whether a regular or special meeting. The AD can be placed on Wednesday, for a meeting no earlier than an April 27, 2022.

The commission approved this Innholders License on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Special Alcohol License

9. Cuisine en Locale DBA Once, 67 Pleasant St., Apt 1, Cambridge, MA St. requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License for the purpose of dispensing and/or selling alcoholic beverages for ONCE at Boynton Yards Summer Series to be held Outdoors in the parking lot at Boynton Yards, 0 Windsor St., on the following dates: 6/11/22, 6/25/22, 7/9/22, 7/30/22, 8/13/22, 8/27/22, 9/10/22, 9/17/22, 9/24/22 from 10:00am –12:00am (Alcohol Service) with Rain dates of 6/12/22, 6/26/22, 7/10/22, 7/31/22, 8/14/22, 8/28/22, 9/11/22, 9/18/22, 9/25/22. (PEL22-000038)

JJ Gonson appeared for this application. Ms. Gonson stated there were no problems last year with this event and they abided by all the rules. Chair Lynch asked Ms. Gonson to speak with the Police Department to see if the number of attendee's is a concern or requires a Detail.

The commission approved this Special Alcohol License on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

All Forms 7 Day Alcohol License Privately Owned Change of Manager

10. Thirsty Scholar Barroom, LLC DBA The Thirsty Scholar, 70 Beacon St. requesting approval for a Change of Manager from Stephen Whalen to William Harrington. (ALM22-000022)

At the request of Brian O'Donnell, kindly continue this item as Liam Harrington will not be able to attend this meeting.

The commission continued this application to the May, 2022 Licensing Commission Meeting

Special Farmer Winery License

11. House Bear Brewing LLC DBA House Bear Brewing, 25 Story Ave., Newburyport, MA requesting approval for a Special Farmer Winery License to sell Mead & Cider produced by the



licensee for off-premises consumption for The East Somerville Farmers' Market to be held at 115 Broadway., on Sundays', May 15, 2022 through November 20, 2022, from 9:00am-1:00pm. (SFW22-000001)

Elizabeth (Beth) Borges appeared for this application.

The commission conditionally approved this Special Farmers Winery License on a roll call vote with 3 in favor (Allen, Lynch and Thomas), 0 opposed

Communication from Chair Lynch

A gentle reminder to our licensees, The ABCC, Enforcement division, will be conducting minimum purchase age compliance checks in Somerville from March through September 30, 2022.