

CITY OF ANN ARBOR COUNCIL LIQUOR LICENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE
January 9, 2009

The City of Ann Arbor Council Liquor License Review Committee Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Stephen Rapundalo, at 3:10 p.m. on January 9, 2009, in the City Council Chamber, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104.

The members present were Councilmembers Stephen Rapundalo, Tony Derezinski and Mike Anglin. City Clerk Jacqueline Beaudry and Assistant City Attorney Mary Fales were present. Fire Marshal Kathleen Chamberlain was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Derezinski moved, seconded by Anglin, that the agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Derezinski moved, seconded by Anglin, to approve the minutes of December 12, 2008 as presented.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS

1. Redevelopment License Applications

a. Mr. Greek's – 215 S. State Street

Rapundalo updated the committee members and those in attendance on the history behind the redevelopment licenses and the process for approval. He stated the geographic boundary for the issuance of the redevelopment licenses is the existing DDA boundary. A copy of the criteria sheet was provided to committee members.

Committee members evaluated Mr. Greek's against the criteria, including Fit of Proposed Location. It was decided that a beer and wine license would be appropriate for this type of establishment as the applicant is looking to serve patrons a drink with dinner. It is not a bar. Sales are more than 50% food. Regarding Residency of Applicant, it was noted that while the owner is not a city resident, the owner is a long-time Ann Arbor local business owner. The committee also determined that the business was compatible with the surrounding area, although not particularly unique.

Derezinski moved, seconded by Anglin, that the City Council Liquor License Review Committee recommend to City Council approval of the application by Mr. Greek's for issuance of a redevelopment liquor license with the limitation of beer and wine sales (tavern) only at the location of 215 S. Street, pending all approvals by a City staff review from Treasury, Police, Fire and Building and Planning.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council following the outcome of the staff reviews.

b. Marnee Thai – 414 S. Main Street

Committee members evaluated Marnee Thai's application against the criteria for issuance of a redevelopment license. It was decided that the business was a good fit for the location, as it was helping to create the extension of the downtown corridor on Main Street, south of William. Committee members also discussed the compatibility of the business use in the downtown area and the desirability (uniqueness) of a formal Thai restaurant downtown.

Committee members noted that the applicant was requesting only approval for beer and wine sales. The city clerk was directed to confirm with the applicant his intentions regarding liquor sales.

Anglin moved, seconded by Derezinski, that the City Council Liquor License Review Committee recommend to City Council approval of the application by Marnee Thai for issuance of a redevelopment liquor license with the limitation of beer and wine sales only (tavern) at the location of 414 S. Main, pending all approvals by a City staff review from Treasury, Police, Fire and Building and Planning.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council following the outcome of the staff reviews.

2. Consideration of Amendments to Existing City Liquor Ordinance (Fales)

Assistant City Attorney Mary Fales informed the committee that she will prepare a full revision of the liquor ordinance for the committee to consider.

Rapundalo stated he is anxious to move forward with the ordinance revisions.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

FUTURE BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

With no further business before the committee, the Chair called the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Jacqueline Beaudry
Ann Arbor City Clerk