

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>



Action Minutes

Friday, December 12, 2014

3:00 PM

Special Meeting

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Third floor, conference room

Council Liquor License Review Committee

CALL TO ORDER

The chair, Councilmember Jane Lumm, called the meeting of the Council Liquor License Review Committee to order at 3:08 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, Third Floor conference room, 301 E. Huron St.

City Clerk Jacqueline Beaudry, Deputy City Clerk Jennifer Alexa, Assistant City Attorney Mary Fales, Treasurer Matthew Horning, Deputy Treasurer Mike Pettigrew, and Lt. Renee Bush of the Ann Arbor Police Department were in attendance.

Jenny Song, applicant of The Songbird Cafe was also in attendance.

Present: 2 - Jane Lumm and Sumi Kailasapathy

Absent: 1 - Mike Anglin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Kailasapathy moved that Councilmember Lumm continue as committee chair for 2015. The motion carried with unanimous consent of the two members present.

A motion was made by Kailasapathy, seconded by Lumm, that the Agenda be approved. On a voice vote, the chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

14-1773 Council Liquor License Review Committee Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2014

Attachments: Liquor committee minutes 111414

A motion was made by Kailasapathy, seconded by Lumm, that the Minutes be approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council by 1/20/2015. On a voice vote, the chair declared the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14-1645

Resolution to Approve the Request from The Songbird Café for a Resort Class C Liquor License to be Located at 2707 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor - D/B/A The Songbird Cafe

Sponsors: Council Liquor License Review Committee

Attachments: 2707 Plymouth Rd Liq Lic city app.pdf

Jenny Song of The Songbird Cafe was present to answer questions of staff and the committee.

Lt. Bush of the Ann Arbor Police Department expressed concerns about the applicant's qualifications as a Resort as defined by the MLCC. She stated the seating capacity, lack of entertainment, or definition as a "destination location", and limited food menu, at this time did not appear to qualify for a Resort License.

Ms. Song responded that currently she provides occasional entertainment options, such as a guitar player. She noted that she is near North Campus hotels and she makes her space available for meetings. She stated The Songbird Cafe can be an "anchor" to the northside area.

Committee members raised additional questions and concerns regarding the current lack of seating capacity as required by the Resort designation. Currently, Ms. Song only provides for 85 seats.

The City Clerk provided a list of other establishments in the City who have received Resort classified licenses, as was requested by the Committee at their last meeting.

A motion was made by Kailasapathy, seconded by Lumm, that the Resolution be Recommended for Adoption by the City Council. On a roll call, the vote was as follows with the chair declaring the motion defeated:

Yea: 0

Nay: 2 - Jane Lumm and Sumi Kailasapathy

Absent: 1 - Mike Anglin

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Annual Renewal Process

City Clerk Jacqueline Beaudry provided the committee with a proposed schedule for the annual liquor license renewal process. Clerk Beaudry stated the annual renewal applications and invoices were mailed by the deputy city clerk on December 8 and are due back to staff by January 2. Staff reviews and recommendations are to be finalized by December 19. The next meeting, proposed for January 9, staff would present recommendations to the committee. Following that meeting, second letters would be sent to licensees alerting them to any staff objections (Treasury, Building, Police, Fire, etc.).

Any objections by the committee would be finalized on January 30 for City Council to set hearings.

The committee concurred with the proposed schedule and calendar.

2015 Meeting Calendar

The calendar as proposed in the annual renewal process was accepted.

INFORMATION/UPCOMING BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business before the committee, the chair called the meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.