City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Friday, February 14, 2025

3:45 PM

Special Meeting: To listen or speak at public comment on Zoom:
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Council Liquor License Review Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Disch called the meeting of the Council Liquor License Review Committee to order at 3:49 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron Street.

ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Lisa Disch, Dharma Akmon and Travis Radina

Absent: 1 - Chris Watson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Akmon, seconded by Councilmember Radina, that the agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Vielmetti spoke about a past incident at Bill's Beer Garden involving minors in the presence of alcohol. He sought clarification regarding children at drinking establishments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

25-0298 Council Liquor License Review Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2025

A motion was made by Councilmember Radina, seconded by Councilmember Akmon, that the Minutes of January 10, 2025 be approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council by 3/3/2025. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

25-0324 Resolution to Recommend Approval of Issuance of a Downtown Development District Liquor License to Recess Cafe, LLC

The petitioner was available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Councilmember Radina, seconded by

Councilmember Akmon, that the resolution be recommended for approval to the City Council by 2/18/2025. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Annual Liquor License Renewal Process

City Clerk's Office Administrative Assistant Rachel Rickinger provided an update on the annual liquor license renewal process.

Rickinger stated that the three businesses noted at the previous meeting as having delinquent personal property taxes have all since paid their delinquent amounts in full. Two final businesses are in the process of paying their renewal fee invoices; otherwise all 2025 renewal invoices are resolved. Rickinger noted there are no additional objections to report for this year's annual renewal process and the renewal process is concluded.

A motion was made by Councilmember Akmon, seconded by Councilmember Radina, that the Clerk's Office send letters to all renewing businesses to affirm that the City of Ann Arbor is recommending them to the State for renewal of their liquor license.

INFORMATION/UPCOMING BUSINESS

Administrative Assistant Rachel Rickinger and Assistant City Attorney John Reiser updated the Committee on the status of Chela's quota liquor license. Chela's building plans were approved and are scheduled for inspection on February 19, 2025. The Clerk's Office will follow up with the Building Official after the 19th to review the status of the project. If all Building Department objections are lifted, the Clerk's Office will provide Chela's with the materials they need for their State liquor license application.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Radina, seconded by Councilmember Disch, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

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