



MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
REGULAR LIQUOR COMMISSION
November 8, 2016

1. Call to order

The regular meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:03 p.m. on November 8, 2016.

2. Present

Commissioner Tari Renner, George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Asst. Police Chief Ken Bays, Katie Simpson, City Planner, Paulette Hurd, Chief Accountant and Renee Gooderham, Chief Deputy Clerk.

3. Public Comment

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. No individuals provided comments during the meeting.

4. Consideration of approving the Commission minutes of October 18, 2016.

Commissioner Renner approved the Commission minutes of October 18, 2016 as presented.

The following was presented:

5. Consideration of the application of Lupita's Hispanic & American Grocery, Inc., d/b/a Lupita's Hispanic & American Grocery, located 1512 W. Market St. Suite 200, currently holding a PAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week for a change of classification to a RAPS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises and the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off premise seven (7) days a week.

Arturo Hernandez, owner/operator, addressed the Commissioner with the assistance of his translator Sergio Arola. Commissioner Renner questioned the business model. Mr. Hernandez explained that the establishment was currently a grocery store. They wanted to expand into a restaurant. Commissioner Renner stated that the majority of receipts had to come from the food sales. Mr. Hernandez acknowledged same.

Commissioner Renner noted that Lupita's Hispanic & American Grocery, Inc., was currently behind one (1) month, July 2016 for food and beverage. He believed same was an oversight as the preceding months had been paid. Package liquor tax had not been paid since August 2016. He stated that the recommendation for approval would be contingent upon the

applicant paying the delinquent food and beverage and package liquor taxes. Mr. Hernandez acknowledged his understanding of same.

Mr. Boyle questioned how many tables. Mr. Hernandez responded twenty (20).

Commissioner Renner questioned video gaming machines. Mr. Hernandez responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting for public testimony on this application.

Ray McWhooter, spoke in opposition to the application. He stated that he had trash in his yard. He believed the application would not benefit the neighborhood. Commissioner Renner questioned if placing closing hour restrictions would help. Mr. McWhooter responded possibly.

Commissioner Renner questioned current establishment hours. Mr. Hernandez responded hours were 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Commissioner Renner questioned expansion of same. Mr. Hernandez responded negatively. Commissioner Renner noted that closing at 9:00 p.m. would be a license condition.

Commissioner Renner questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training. Mr. Hernandez responded that he was certified.

Commissioner Renner summarized the recommendation to the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting: that the application of Lupita's Hispanic & American Grocery, Inc., d/b/a Lupita's Hispanic & American Grocery, located 1512 W. Market St. Suite 200, currently holding a PAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week for a change of classification to a RAPS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises and the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off premise seven (7) days a week be approved contingent upon: 1.) closing hours are 9:00 p.m., 2.) verification from the Finance Department that food and beverage and package taxes are current and 3.) compliance with all health and safety codes.

The following was presented:

- 6. Consideration of the application of Mickey's Kitchen, Inc., d/b/a Mickey's Kitchen, located at 1709 S. Veterans Pkwy. Suite A, requesting an RBS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.**

Megdi Aliu, owner/operator, addressed the Commissioner. Commissioner Renner questioned the business model. Mr. Aliu stated that he has been operating as a restaurant for six (6) months. His customers were requesting beer and wine with their food. Commissioner Renner stated that the majority of receipts had to come from the food sales. Mr. Aliu acknowledged same.

Commissioner Renner questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training. Mr. Aliu responded not at this time. Commissioner Renner recommended that Mr. Aliu contact the City Clerk's office for a training listing.

Mr. Boyle questioned the number of tables. Mr. Aliu stated twenty-five to thirty (25 – 30). Mr. Boyle questioned video gaming machines. Mr. Aliu responded possibly. He would only have three (3) machines. Commissioner Renner noted that there were concerns with the number of establishments that offer video gaming.

Commissioner Renner summarized the recommendation to the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting: that the application of Mickey's Kitchen, Inc., d/b/a Mickey's Kitchen, located at 1709 S. Veterans Pkwy. Suite A, requesting an RBS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week be approved contingent upon: obtaining BASSETT training and compliance with all health and safety codes.

The following was presented:

- 7. Consideration of the application of Bloom Happy Hour, Inc., d/b/a Happy Hour, located at 716 S. Eldorado Rd., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.**

Sreenivas Poondru, owner/operator, addressed the Commissioner. Commissioner Renner questioned the business model. Mr. Poondru responded that they had held a liquor license at 704 S. Eldorado Rd. The business was moving to the building next door. Commissioner Renner stated that the majority of receipts had to come from the food sales. Mr. Poondru responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Renner questioned video gaming machines. Mr. Poondru stated negatively. They would offer a fine dining experience. Commissioner Renner questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training. Mr. Poondru responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Renner summarized the recommendation to the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting: that the application of Bloom Happy Hour, Inc., d/b/a Happy Hour, located at 716 S. Eldorado Rd., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week be approved contingent upon compliance with all health and safety codes.

The following was presented:

- 8. Consideration of the application of LGP Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Lucca Bar and Grill, located at 116 E. Market St., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale**

of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Anthony Smith and John Koch, applicants and Rich Marvel, applicant's attorney, addressed the Commissioner. Commissioner Renner noted that the establishment was one of the City's oldest restaurants.

Commissioner Renner questioned the business model. Mr. Marvel stated that Mr. Smith and Mr. Koch had a pending contract contingent upon receiving a liquor license.

Mr. Koch stated that he work in the establishment for twenty (20) years. There would be no business changes. The current owner, Chuck Williams, would remain on for a period of time. Mr. Smith stated that he had work in the establishment for seventeen (17) years, eight (8) of which was as manager.

Commissioner Renner summarized the recommendation to the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting: that the application of LGP Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Lucca Bar and Grill, located at 116 E. Market St., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week be approved contingent upon compliance with all health and safety codes.

The following was presented:

- 9. Reappearance of the application of Extravaganza Ballroom, Inc., d/b/a Extravaganza Ballroom, located at 113 E Monroe, requesting an EAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.**

Commissioner Renner acknowledged receipt from the applicant's attorney, Rich Marvel, that the application was withdrawn.

The following was presented:

- 10. Notification of a change of officer positions from HOA Restaurant Holder LLC, d/b/a Hooters of Bloomington, located at 409 N Hershey Rd, currently holding a RAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Changes are: Dirk Montgomery, LLC Manager, was added.**

Commissioner Renner instructed the Clerk to address the appropriate letter to the State of Illinois Liquor Control Commission acknowledging same.

- 11. Adjournment**

Time: 4:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Gooderham
Chief Deputy Clerk