

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION
ADMINISTRATION BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Pal the Mediterranean Spot, : Roll Call Hearing

LLC, t/a Pal the :

Mediterranean Spot :

1501 U Street, N.W. :

License # ABRA-092484 :

Retailer CR :

Case # 13-PRO-00101 :

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Monday,
August 26, 2013

ABRA Hearing Room, 400 South
Reeves Municipal Center
2000 14th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20009

The above-entitled matter convened at
10:05 a.m., before the District of Columbia
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration
Board.

BEFORE:

LA VERNE FLETCHER, Board Mediator

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 [10:05 a.m.]

3 MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in
4 the matter of Pal, the Mediterranean Spot, come
5 forward.

6 This is Case No. 13-PRO-00101, Pal the
7 Mediterranean Spot, LLC, trading as Pal the
8 Mediterranean Spot, 1501 U Street, N.W., License
9 No. ABRA-092484. This is a Retailer CR new
10 application, and the protest issues are adverse
11 impact on real property values, peace, order, and
12 quiet, over-concentration, and residential
13 parking and vehicular and pedestrian safety.

14 My name is La Vern Fletcher and I'll
15 be conducting the roll call hearing as the
16 Board's agent, pursuant to D.C. Official Code
17 1601.2.

18 Introductions, beginning with the--is
19 the Applicant here?

20 MS. PARASCANDOLA: I don't see--

21 MS. FLETCHER: Is the person filing
22 the application here?

1 MS. PARASCANDOLA: --him or her.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. I'll get started
3 with the Protestants and maybe he will appear
4 before we're done.

5 Is anyone here on behalf of Christina
6 and Mark Parascandola?

7 MR. HIBEY: Yes. I am.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Hi. Mr. "Heebee"?

9 MR. HIBEY: "Highbee."

10 MS. FLETCHER: Hibey. Mr. Hibey, would
11 you start your name and spell it for the court
12 reporter. I know you already have, but can you
13 just--

14 MR. HIBEY: Yes. Mike Hibey, and its
15 spelled H-i-b-e-y.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

17 And you're the attorney for the
18 Parascandola's?

19 MR. HIBEY: Yes.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Are they present here
21 today.

22 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Yes.

1 MS. FLETCHER: If you could state your
2 name and spell it for the court reporter.

3 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Yes. My name is
4 Christina Parascandola. My first name is spelled
5 C-h-r-i-s-t-i-n-a. My last name is spelled P as
6 in Paul, a-r-a-s as in Sam, c as in Charlie, a, n
7 as in Nancy, d as in David, o-l-a.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

9 Good morning, Mr. Ferris.

10 MR. FERRIS: State your name and spell
11 it for the court reporter.

12 MR. FERRIS: I'll Elwyn Ferris. E-l-w-
13 y-n. Last name, F-e-r-r-i-s. I am here,
14 representing the Shaw/Dupont Citizens Alliance.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very
16 much, Mr. Ferris. And just for the record, I'm
17 going to verify, Ms. Parascandola, that you
18 reside at 2022 15th Street, N.W., and you are an
19 abutting property owner. That's what you stated
20 in your protest letter. I'm just confirming that
21 your property does indeed abut the property--

22 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Yes; it does.

1 MS. FLETCHER: --of the establishment.

2 MS. PARASCANDOLA: I just wanted to
3 add, there is another party here that has filed a
4 protest letter.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Oh. Okay.

6 MR. ABBRUZZESE: I'm Matthew
7 Abbruzzese. I'm the president of the Meridian
8 Hill Neighborhood Association.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

10 MR. ABBRUZZESE: So the way to spell
11 my name is Matthew, M-a-t-t-h-e-w. My last name
12 is A-b-b-r-u-z-z-e-s-e.

13 MS. FLETCHER: And you're the
14 president of the association?

15 MR. ABBRUZZESE: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.

17 MR. ABBRUZZESE: Thank you.

18 MS. FLETCHER: I have your--

19 MR. ABBRUZZESE: Letter of protest.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Your protest letter.

21 Yes. I do.

22 MR. ABBRUZZESE: Thank you.

1 MS. FLETCHER: There are three
2 Protestants in this matter that have standing.
3 Christina and Mark Parascandola, and Meridian
4 Hill Neighborhood Association, and the
5 Shaw/Dupont Citizens Alliance.

6 Has anyone had any communication with
7 the Applicant? Someone's coming now, so let's
8 see. Is that--

9 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Yes; that's the
10 Applicant.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you. You
12 can just come up, take a seat at the table.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. RASHED: Hi.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning.

16 MS. HAILE: Good morning.

17 MS. FLETCHER: We were just doing the
18 introductions. So I'll start with you, ma'am. If
19 you would state your name and spell it for the
20 court reporter.

21 MS. HAILE: A-z-a-n-a-a-c-h. Azanaach.
22 My last name, Haile.

1 MS. FLETCHER: How do you pronounce
2 it?

3 MS. HAILE: Azanaach.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. And I'll need you
5 to spell it again for me, please. Thank you.

6 MS. HAILE: Okay. A-z-a.

7 MS. FLETCHER: A-z-a.

8 MS. HAILE: n-a-c-h.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Is that the last name?

10 MS. HAILE: No. My first name.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Oh, that's the first
12 name. And what's the last name again?

13 MS. HAILE: Haile. H-a-i-l-e.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.
15 And you're the Applicant?

16 MS. HAILE: Yes.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

18 MS. HAILE: Okay.

19 MS. FLETCHER: Your name, sir?

20 MR. RASHED: Mohammed, the first name.
21 M-o-h-a-m-m-e-d. Last name R--Rashed. R-a-s-h-e-
22 d.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. And you're--and
2 how are you associated with the establishment,
3 with the Applicant?

4 MR. RASHED: I'm the--she's my wife.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.

6 Just before you arrived, standing was
7 granted to three protesting groups. The
8 Protestants in this matter are Christina and Mark
9 Parascandola. They're abutting property owners.
10 They live right next door to you. That's Ms.
11 Parascandola, right there, in the light jacket.

12 There's the Meridian Hill Neighborhood
13 Association here. And the Shaw/Dupont Citizens
14 Alliance.

15 So those are the Protestants in this
16 matter. We need to set a date for a mediation, a
17 status hearing, and a protest hearing.

18 I'll give you the date for the status
19 hearing and the protest hearing first.

20 The status hearing--and you'll receive
21 written notice of these dates as well. But I'm
22 going to give them to you now.

1 The status hearing is scheduled for
2 September 25th at 9:30 a.m.

3 There's a protest hearing scheduled
4 for October the 16th. October 16 at 1:30 in the
5 afternoon. I'm going to give you the
6 next available date for mediation, to take place
7 prior to the September 25 status hearing.

8 September 19 is available. That's on
9 a Thursday at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, or 1:00.

10 MR. HIBEY: I can't do anything on
11 that day.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. What was that,
13 Mr. Hibey? What did you say?

14 MR. HIBEY: I said I couldn't do any
15 of those times on that day.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Oh, okay. September--
17 oh, Mr. Hibey, can you come up to the table,
18 closer to the microphone.

19 MR. HIBEY: I'm sorry. Thank you.

20 MS. FLETCHER: The 20th. That's
21 available. That's Friday, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, or
22 1:00. I can keep going. Is that good for you?

1 MR. HIBEY: That works for me.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Is that good for
3 you, Ms. Haile? Is that good for you?

4 MS. HAILE: It's all right.

5 MS. FLETCHER: So that's September
6 20th for mediation.

7 MR. ABBRUZZESE: The time?

8 MS. FLETCHER: 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 or
9 1:00. Do you have a preference for morning?

10 MR. ABBRUZZESE: 1:00?

11 MS. FLETCHER: Is 1:00 good?

12 MS. PARASCANDOLA: I'd prefer earlier
13 in the day.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Is 11:00 better?

15 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Or earlier.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Earlier?

17 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Yeah.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Well, let me--

19 MR. RASHED: 9:00 and 10:00 is not
20 good for us. No.

21 MS. FLETCHER: 9:00 and 10:00 is not
22 good for you.

1 MS. HAILE: We have a baby. We have to
2 take her to school.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Would that be
4 the case every day, or is it just--

5 MR. RASHED: Week days. Yes.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.
7 Understood. So that what's the earliest that
8 would be good for you?

9 MR. RASHED: 11:00 is good.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Would 11:00 work?

11 MR. HIBEY: Yes.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you. 11:00
13 o'clock on Friday, September 20.

14 Okay. Any questions, at all, about the
15 hearings, or the purpose of the hearings? Any
16 questions at all?

17 MR. HIBEY: No.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Then the
19 mediations take place here, maybe in this room.
20 That's for those who don't know. I don't think
21 you've been here before, so when you come in,
22 just check with the receptionist, and I'll come

1 out and we'll get started. Okay. Then the roll
2 call hearing is concluded. Thank you for coming.

3 MR. HIBEY: Thank you.

4 MR. ABBRUZZESE: Thank you.

5 MS. PARASCANDOLA: Thank you.

6 [Whereupon, at 10:14 a.m., the roll
7 call hearing was concluded.]

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