DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
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ROLL CALL HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Cornerstone Bar Group
LLC,
t/a The Pub and the People
1648 North Capitol Street:

Roll Call
Retailer CT - ANC 5E Hearing
License No. ABRA-094089
Case #19-PRO-00095

(Substantial Change - Expansion of Basement,
Increase in Occupancy
On First Floor)

Monday
August 26, 2019

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009, LaVerne Fletcher, Board's Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent
ALSO PRESENT:

MATTHEW MURPHY, Applicant
BRITTANY RYAN, Applicant
NICK BERNEL, Applicant
KARLA LEWIS, ANC 5E
RODNEY POWELL, Group of 11
JEAN WATKINS
KATHIE SHAHAN
SELMA DILLARD
FELICIA LYNCH
ROSCOE HAMMONDS
CHERYL ROBINSON
1  P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2
3  10:19 a.m.
4
5  MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in
6  the matter of The Pub and the People, The Pub and
7  the People please come forward. This is Case No.
8  19-PRO-00095, Cornerstone Bar Group LLC, 1648
9  North Capitol Street, Northwest, License No.
10  ABRA-094089.
11
12  This is a Retailer Class CT
13  substantial change -- don't move the -- thank
14  you. This is a substantial change. It's
15  expansion to the basement, adding 24 seats,
16  increasing occupancy on first floor from 84 to
17  98, total occupancy increase from 84 to 144.
18
19  The protest issues are adverse impact
20  on peace, order and quiet and real property
21  values. My name is LaVerne Fletcher conducting
22  the roll call hearing as the Board's agent.
23
24  Introductions, beginning with the Applicant,
25  please.
26
27  MR. MURPHY: My name is Matthew
28  Murphy. I'm one of the owners of Cornerstone Bar
MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Murphy.

Is that M-A-T-T?

MR. MURPHY: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Your name, ma'am?


MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry, Brittany, what did you say? Your first name is B-R-I-T-T --

MS. RYAN: A-N-Y.

MS. FLETCHER: A-N-Y. Mm-hm.

MS. RYAN: Ryan, R-Y-A-N.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

MS. RYAN: I'm also one of the partners.

MR. BERNEL: I'm Nick Bernel, spelled B-E-R-N-E-L, and I'm also one of the owners.

MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry; what's the first name again?

MR. BERNEL: Nick.
MS. FLETCHER: Oh, Nick. Nick, what's the last name?

MR. BERNEL: Bernel, B-E-R-N-E-L.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Present on behalf of ANC 5E.

MS. LEWIS: Yes, I'm Karla Lewis, ANC 5E06.

MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Lewis, would you spell your name for the record, please?


MS. FLETCHER: Is anyone present on behalf of the group of 11?

MR. POWELL: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Your name, sir?

MR. POWELL: Good morning. I'm Rodney Powell.

MS. FLETCHER: Could you spell that for the record, please, Mr. Powell?

MR. POWELL: Powell, P, like Peter, O-W-E-L-L.

MS. FLETCHER: Is anyone else present
from your group today?

MR. POWELL: Yes, we have five.

MS. FLETCHER: Okay, if you would just stand right between Mr. Powell and Ms. Lewis and state your name into the microphone and spell it for the record.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

MS. FLETCHER: Yes, you're welcome.


MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.


MS. SHAHAN: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: S-A-H --

MS. SHAHAN: S-H-A.

MS. FLETCHER: S-H-A.

MS. SHAHAN: H-A-N.

MS. FLETCHER: H-A-N.

MS. SHAHAN: Right.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

MS. FLETCHER: Selma, did you say the last name was Dillard or Villard?

MS. DILLARD: Dillard, D.

MS. FLETCHER: Like dog?

MS. DILLARD: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you very much.

MS. LYNCH: Felicia Lynch.

MS. FLETCHER: Can you state that one more time?

MS. LYNCH: Felicia Lynch.

MS. FLETCHER: Is that F-E-L-I-C-I-A?

MS. LYNCH: (Simultaneous Speaking.)

MS. FLETCHER: How do you spell the last name?

MS. LYNCH: L-Y-N-C-H.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

MR. HAMMONDS: Roscoe Hammonds,

R-O-S-C-O-E H-A-M-M --

MS. FLETCHER: Can you speak into the
microphone, please? It's on this table right here, thank you.


MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, and the first name is R-O-S-C-O-E.

MR. HAMMONDS: Yes, ma'am.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.


MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Everybody present signed the protest letter.

MR. POWELL: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. I counted seven people present today.

MR. POWELL: Yes, that's correct.

MS. FLETCHER: What that means is that your group of 11 is granted full standing as a protestant. The Board needs to see at least five faces in order to be granted full standing, and you have seven people present today, so your group is granted standing.
Mr. Powell, at the upcoming status hearing, only you need to appear because we've already seen the requisite number of people. Mr. Powell, you're also representing --

MR. POWELL: Sukh Mutneja.

MS. FLETCHER: I'm going to spell that for the record.

MR. POWELL: Okay, as you should.

MS. FLETCHER: I've got the spelling right here. Is that a male or a female?

MR. POWELL: Male.

MS. FLETCHER: His name is spelled S-U-K-H-M-O-H-I-N-D, like dog, E-R. His last name looks like Mutneja. I'll spell it. It's spelled M-U-T-N-E-J-A. I have a question for you, Mr. Powell. Mr. Mutneja has filed a protest as an abutting property owner.

MR. POWELL: Yes, that is correct.

MS. FLETCHER: His property actually abuts the establishment.

MR. POWELL: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Do you know if they
share a common wall?

MR. POWELL: They do.

MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Murphy, do you know if they share a common wall, meaning that they touch on some level?

MR. MURPHY: There's a party wall, yes.

MS. FLETCHER: That means that Mr. Mutneja is granted standing as a protestor. He needs to be present at the upcoming status hearing, so that we see him in person. Otherwise, his protest will be dismissed. So actually, today, we're granting him conditional standing. He needs to show up at the upcoming status hearing.

MR. POWELL: I'll let him know.

MS. FLETCHER: Any questions so far? We need to set a date for a status hearing, a protest hearing, and a mediation. I'm going to give you the dates of the status and protest hearing first. The status hearing is scheduled for September 25, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. That's
September 25, at 9:30 a.m. The protest hearing is set for November 6, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.

          MR. POWELL: The first one was the status, you said?
          MS. FLETCHER: Yes, the first one is the status hearing. The September 25th date is the status hearing. That's at 9:30. The second date, November 6th, is the protest hearing.
          MR. POWELL: Mr. Mutneja needs to confirm his --
          MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Mutneja needs to be present on September 25 in order to maintain his standing. He's been granted conditional standing today, but he has to appear on September 25 in order for the Board to grant him full standing or his protest will be dismissed at the status hearing.
          MS. LEWIS: Is the protest hearing date, is it possible to amend that date?
          MS. FLETCHER: You would need to send a request to Martha Jenkins, our general counsel. Martha is spelled M-A-R-T-H-A, Jenkins,
J-E-N-K-I-N-S. Martha Jenkins is our general counsel. Ms. Lewis, do you know her email address?

MS. LEWIS: I do.

MS. FLETCHER: That's martha.jenkins@dc.gov. You would need to copy --

let me ask you something. Mr. Murphy, you're representing the establishment?

MR. MURPHY: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: You would need to copy Mr. --

MS. LEWIS: First, let me ask is that date okay with everyone?

MS. RYAN: We prefer earlier.

MR. MURPHY: I think we would prefer earlier, but I don't believe --

MS. LEWIS: Yes, me, too, that's what I'm aiming for.

PARTICIPANT: Yes, as early as possible, if that works for you.

MR. POWELL: I think an earlier date would be better for me.
MS. FLETCHER: You mean earliest date for the protest hearing?

MS. LEWIS: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: That's the earliest. That actually is the earliest date.

MS. LEWIS: I was hoping that -- I heard October 3rd and 30th, so I was hoping that it would --

PARTICIPANT: Me, too. That's okay.

MS. FLETCHER: That's actually the earliest. We need to set a date for the mediation. The next available day for mediation is Tuesday, September 17, at 9:00, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, basically any time on that day, up until 2:00 in the afternoon.

MR. POWELL: That day does not work for me.

MS. FLETCHER: Okay, I'll keep moving. How about --

MR. POWELL: Should mediation be before or after the status?

MS. FLETCHER: It's going to be
before. It can be after if it has to be, if
you're not available before, because your status
hearing is coming up pretty fast for the
mediation calendar. It's okay with the Board if
the mediation happens after the status hearing,
but you would still need to appear for the status
hearing and tell the Board that the mediation is
upcoming. That would be okay. The next
available day for mediation is Thursday,
September 19.

MR. POWELL: How about the 20th?

MS. FLETCHER: The 20th is not good.

Fridays are actually the only day that are not
good days.

MR. POWELL: What time were you
proposing on the 19th?

MS. FLETCHER: On the 19th?

MR. POWELL: Yes.

MS. FLETCHER: Any time in the
morning, up until 2:00 in the afternoon. We can
also do it on the 18th. That's a Wednesday.

MS. LEWIS: The 18th works out better
for me.

MS. FLETCHER: It's okay with you, Mr. Murphy, whatever?

(Simultaneous Speaking.)

MS. FLETCHER: The 18th is better?

MR. POWELL: 19th.

MS. FLETCHER: The 19th is better? If you want to do it on the 19th, you can pick any time between 9:00 and 2:00.

MR. POWELL: Probably 10:00 a.m.

MR. MURPHY: Which date is this, now?

PARTICIPANT: The 19th.

PARTICIPANT: 10:00 it's going to be.

MR. MURPHY: If we could do it closer to lunch.

MS. FLETCHER: 11:30?

MR. MURPHY: That would be perfect.

MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Lewis, 11:30, does that work?

MS. LEWIS: 11:30 is fine, September 19th.

MS. FLETCHER: Yes. Mediation is set
for 11:30 on September 19. Just check in out front. The mediation's probably going to take place in here, but if you check in out front, I'll come out. If it's not going to be here, then I'll take you someplace else. Any questions? Okay, the roll call hearing is concluded, and thank you for coming.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 10:33 a.m.)
CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: The Pub and the People

Before: DCABRA

Date: 08-26-19

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

[Signature]
Court Reporter