

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
+ + + + +
MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:
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:
JH Topia, Inc., :
t/a Patron Convenience :
Store :
3235 Pennsylvania Ave SE : Protest
Retailer B - ANC 7B : Hearing (Status)
License No. 086085 :
Case #20-PRO-00056 :
:
(Application to Renew :
License) :

Thursday
January 7, 2021

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
met via WebEx videoconference, Chairperson
Donovan W. Anderson, presiding.

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
EDWARD S. GRANDIS, Member
JENI HANSEN, Member
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member
REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

SIMONE ANDREWS, ABRA Specialist
SU BOK JEONG, Licensee
TIFFANY BROWN, ANC 7B

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

2 10:51 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, the
4 next case on our calendar is Case Number 20-PRO-
5 00056, Patron Convenience Store, License Number
6 086085.

7 Ms. Andrews, can you please elevate
8 the rights of the -- there is a Korean
9 interpreter, the ANC, and also the Licensee,
10 please.

11 MS. ANDREWS: Sure, stand by.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

13 MS. ANDREWS: I see Commissioner
14 Tiffany Brown online, but I do not have the
15 rights to elevate her. It seems like she's
16 having some connection issues.

17 The Licensee's rights have been
18 elevated, and I think the interpreter's rights
19 have been elevated.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay.

21 MS. ANDREWS: Okay, Ms. Brown, your
22 rights have been elevated. You can now turn on
23 your camera and your microphone.

24 MEMBER BROWN: Thank you, okay.

25 MS. ANDREWS: Back to you, Chair.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I cannot see
2 you, Ms. Brown. I see that you're online, but I
3 cannot see you.

4 MEMBER BROWN: What about, oh, let me
5 turn my camera around. It won't let me cut my
6 camera on.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, I can see
8 you, Ms. Brown.

9 MEMBER BROWN: You can see me, okay,
10 great.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. Hold on,
12 please.

13 All right. Who is the interpreter?

14 MS. KIM: This is Kyongsook Kim
15 speaking. Can you hear me?

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Kim?

17 MS. KIM: Yes.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you turn
19 your camera on, please?

20 MS. KIM: Yes. I am trying to turn it
21 on, and I have a difficulty getting myself on,
22 but I think I can do.

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm waiting for
24 the interpreter to get onboard.

25 Ms. Kim, are you able to maybe log

1 back in, because I don't know what's going on.

2 Ms. Kim?

3 (No audible response.)

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, Ms.

5 Kim?

6 MS. KIM: Can you hear me?

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, I can hear
8 and see you.

9 MS. KIM: Yes, okay.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You're still
11 logged in on the other device. But I can hear
12 and see you.

13 MS. KIM: Oh, sorry.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you raise
15 your right hand, please?

16 Do you solemnly affirm that you will
17 faithfully and accurately interpret these
18 proceedings in this matter from English into
19 Korean and from Korean into English to the best
20 of your abilities?

21 MS. KIM: (Foreign language spoken.)

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No. No, ma'am,
23 this is for you, not for him, you.

24 MS. KIM: Oh, okay. Yes, I do.

25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's for you,

1 you to respond to me. You said you do?

2 MS. KIM: Yes, I do.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you please
4 spell and state your name for the record.

5 MS. KIM: My first name is Kyongsook,
6 K-Y-O-N-G-S-O-O-K. And my last name is Kim,
7 which is K-I-M, as in Mary.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is
9 your role today, ma'am?

10 MS. KIM: An interpreter.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Thank
12 you.

13 MS. KIM: Mm-hmm.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
15 everyone. I would like all the parties to
16 introduce themselves for the record starting with
17 the Licensee.

18 Can you ask him to spell and tell me
19 what his name is? I'm not sure if he's hearing.

20 MR. JEONG: Okay, my name J, Jeong, my
21 name is Su Bok Jeong, S-U, B-O-K, J-E-O-N-G.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

23 MR. JEONG: You're welcome.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And I'm sorry,
25 who are you, sir?

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 MR. JEONG: I am the owner of Patron
3 Convenience.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
5 thank you. Ms. Brown?

6 MEMBER BROWN: Tiffany Brown, ANC
7 Commissioner, 7B-02, current vice chair of ANC
8 7B. My name is spelled T-I-F-F-A-N-Y, middle
9 initial, L, last name, B-R-O-W-N.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
11 Ms. Brown.

12 MEMBER BROWN: Good morning.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I just want to
14 remind everyone that there is a mediation
15 currently scheduled for January 13, 2021.

16 MR. JEONG: When did you say, can you
17 tell me again, please?

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: January 13th.

19 MR. JEONG: Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm not sure of
21 the time, but I'll make sure that the Agency once
22 again reaches to both parties and reminds them of
23 the date and time of the mediation.

24 MR. JEONG: Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are there any,

1 this is to the Licensee, are there any issues he
2 wants to bring to my attention?

3 MR. JEONG: Okay. So in fact, my
4 counsel, who is called Chrissie Chang, a female
5 counselor, she contacted an ANC member on
6 December 30th last year. So my belief is that
7 she will keep communication with ANC members
8 regarding this matter.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry, so
10 who, are you saying that you have an attorney?
11 What's the name of, do you have an attorney? Is
12 that what he's saying?

13 MR. JEONG: C-H-R-I-S-S-I-E C-H-A-N-
14 G. She is not exactly my attorney, but she will
15 be assisting me in this matter. And her name is
16 Chrissie, C-H-R-I-S-S-I-E. And her last name is
17 Chang, C-H-A-N-G.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
19 that's fine. So you are aware, Ms. Brown, okay?

20 MEMBER BROWN: Yes, I've been in
21 contact with them. They emailed the office, and
22 I've actually spoken to Ms. Chang. And I'm to
23 send her a draft settlement agreement.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
25 thank you.

1 Ms. Brown, from your perspective, are
2 there any preliminary matters you want to bring
3 to the Board's attention?

4 MEMBER BROWN: Not at this time.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. I
6 do not have a date currently for the protest
7 hearing. But we will provide a date to both
8 parties as soon as possible.

9 MR. JEONG: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. I'm
11 going to read the instructions for a protest
12 hearing.

13 MR. JEONG: Okay.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now that we
15 have scheduled this matter for a protest hearing,
16 there are a few things that I would like to
17 instruct you about because the Board's practices
18 under COVID-19 restrictions have changed.

19 As you know, the Board's hearings are
20 conducted virtually. So it is more important
21 than ever that every protest hearing is focused
22 and addresses only those issues that are being
23 protested.

24 Following this hearing, you will be
25 receiving and email from April Randall --

1 MR. JEONG: Okay.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- that will
3 include a copy of the protest information form
4 and a copy of an exhibit form, as well as
5 specific instructions for the hearing.

6 You are required to complete and
7 submit the PIP and the exhibit forms --

8 MR. JEONG: Okay.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- at least
10 seven days before the date of the hearing.

11 MR. JEONG: Yes.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: If we do not
13 receive a copy of your forms seven days before
14 the hearing, your application or your protest may
15 be subject to dismissal.

16 These documents need to be submitted
17 to abra.legal@dc.gov and to the opposing parties.

18 THE INTERPRETER: This is the
19 interpreter speaking. Could you repeat the
20 address, please?

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: ABRA, A-B-R-A
22 dot L-E-G-A-L at DC dot gov.

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Please note
24 that these documents greatly assist the Board in
25 narrowing the protest issues, facilitating the

1 process, and keeping the parties on point during
2 the hearing.

3 Each side is limited to no more than
4 five witnesses, and you will only have 60 minutes
5 to present your case. This includes all direct
6 and cross examination. The Board does not intend
7 to hear testimony on matters that are not
8 relevant to those issues that are being
9 protested.

10 Are there any questions?

11 MR. JEONG: So everything that you
12 just mentioned just now, are they going to be
13 contained as a part of the email message?

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes.

15 MR. JEONG: Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you need us
17 to provide this in Korean, or are you able to
18 read English?

19 MR. JEONG: English is just fine.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, thank
21 you. All right, we thank you greatly for your
22 cooperation. If you have any questions at any
23 time leading up to the hearing, please do not
24 hesitate to contact AGC April Randall. And her
25 new phone number is 202-329-6354.

1 MR. JEONG: Got you.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
3 Thank you very much, have a great day. And I
4 just want to remind you of the mediation on
5 January 31st.

6 MEMBER BROWN: January 13th.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry,
8 January 13th, I apologize.

9 (Simultaneous speaking.)

10 MR. JEONG: Happy New Year, thank you.

11 THE INTERPRETER: The interpreter is
12 going to disconnect herself.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, thank you
14 very much. Have a great day.

15 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Bye-bye. All
17 right.

18 And also, can I ask something?

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, go ahead,
20 please.

21 MR. JEONG: Can I get this to your
22 interpreter in the mediation date?

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you do
24 what?

25 MR. JEONG: Interpreter in the -

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes.

2 MR. JEONG: -- in the mediation date.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Agency will
4 make sure that there is a Korean interpreter for
5 the mediation.

6 And also, Ms. Brown, if you require
7 interpretation services to do a discussion with,
8 if you need someone to, a Korean interpreter, you
9 can contact our Agency or you can call the DC
10 access line.

11 And we can ensure that you receive an
12 interpreter if you trying to do a negotiation.
13 I'm not sure, I know the Agency is familiar with
14 Ms. Chang. But if an interpreter is needed, the
15 Agency can provide one. You just have to request
16 one.

17 MEMBER BROWN: Okay.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

19 MR. JEONG: Actually, can I say
20 something to Ms. Tiffany Brown?

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead.

22 MR. JEONG: I just wanted to let you
23 know that I do know some English, but as you
24 know, this is a pretty important matter, so I do
25 want to make sure that I understand everything

1 correctly which is why I am asking you to please
2 provide me with an interpreter, as you have done
3 so far.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, thank
5 you. Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

6 MR. JEONG: Thank you so much.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have a great
8 day, thank you.

9 MR. JEONG: Thank you. Bye-bye.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

11 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
12 went off the record at 11:14 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Patron Convenience Store

Before: DCABRA

Date: 01-07-21

Place: teleconference

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



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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