

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
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 MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:                             :  
    :  
 Charles Corner, Inc.                         :  
 t/a Charles Corner                           :  
 2600 Wade Road, S.E.                    : Protest Hearing  
 Retailer B - ANC 8C                        : (Status)  
 License No. 094783                         :  
 Case #20-PRO-00055                        :  
    :  
 (Application to Renew                      :  
 the License)                                   :

Thursday  
 February 4, 2021

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:**

VICTORIA AKINSEYE, ANC 8C  
 SIMONE ANDREWS, DC ABRA Staff

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

2 10:17 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case  
4 on our calendar is Case No. 20-PRO-00055, Charles  
5 Corner, License No. 094783.

6 Ms. Andrews, can you please elevate  
7 the rights of the protestants and the licensee in  
8 this case, please?

9 MS. ANDREWS: Sure. Ms. Akinseye, I'm  
10 sorry if I'm mispronouncing it. Your rights have  
11 elevated. That's it, Mr. Chair.

12 MS. AKINSEYE: Good morning.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,  
14 ma'am.

15 (Pause.)

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We're waiting  
17 for the licensee.

18 (Pause.)

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And while we're  
20 waiting, ma'am, can you introduce yourself for  
21 the record, please? I don't know --

22 MS. AKINSEYE: Sure. Good morning,  
23 everyone. My name is Victoria Akinseye. I am  
24 the Commissioner for Single-Member District 8C in  
25 Ward 8. Pretty much at this time we are still

1 currently working on a settlement agreement.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, so you've  
3 been in contact with the licensee?

4 MS. AKINSEYE: Yes, my colleague,  
5 Salim Adofo has, not me personally but -- and  
6 they are still working on a settlement agreement.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have you guys  
8 been to mediation, do you know?

9 MS. AKINSEYE: Well, we had a  
10 mediation the day of inauguration which was  
11 January 20th.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

13 MS. AKINSEYE: And we had -- it was  
14 almost three hours. And we agreed that we would  
15 work with Charles Corner store to come to some  
16 type of agreement on how we can reduce some of  
17 the issues with the liquor store that we are  
18 having.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. I will  
20 just -- since he's not here, I was just trying to  
21 find out if there's been communication between  
22 the parties. That's all. All right. So we'll  
23 just continue. I'll wait a couple more minutes,  
24 and I'll make a decision on what we're going to  
25 do.

1 MS. AKINSEYE: Okay.

2 (Pause.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I don't know  
4 where the licensee is. Normally if a licensee  
5 does not show up or a party doesn't show up, we  
6 will dismiss -- we would dismiss the application.

7 MS. AKINSEYE: Okay.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Based on the  
9 representation that you have made, you're saying  
10 that the parties are discussing a settlement. So  
11 do you believe that the parties will come to a --  
12 will sign a settlement agreement? Is it your  
13 hope? Do you believe that this would occur?

14 MS. AKINSEYE: That is the hope and  
15 the goal, I mean, obviously. But I don't -- I  
16 mean, I don't know. I mean, ultimately, we will  
17 hope to try and settle.

18 But at this point, I can't really say  
19 what direction it's going to go at this point. I  
20 just know that the residents within the community  
21 do not want the -- does not want Charles Corner  
22 store to sell liquor because of the chaos, crime,  
23 and assaults that have been happening within the  
24 community, loitering, the illegal dumping of  
25 trash within that community. The residents don't

1 want liquor being sold.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Give me a  
3 minute, please.

4 MS. AKINSEYE: Okay.

5 (Pause.)

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.  
7 This matter was scheduled for a protest hearing  
8 status -- this matter was -- hold on. All right.  
9 All right. This matter was scheduled for a  
10 protest status hearing today. It was scheduled  
11 for 10:00 o'clock. The licensee was notified of  
12 the date and time of the status hearing. And it  
13 has always been the position and policy of the  
14 Agency that if a party does not show -- does not  
15 appear at a protest -- if a party does not appear  
16 at either mediation -- I'm sorry, roll call or --  
17 excuse me, or here at the status hearing or at  
18 the protest hearing, if a party does not appear,  
19 we will either dismiss the protest or we will  
20 dismiss the application for renewal or the  
21 application for whatever change that's been made.  
22 So the protestant is here.

23 The renewal of the application has  
24 been made by ANC 8C, and the protestant is here.  
25 The licensee after being provided the proper

1 notice by the Agency has still not appeared. And  
2 we have waited almost half an hour since this  
3 hearing was scheduled for 10:00 o'clock, and it's  
4 almost 10:30. And the protestant had -- I'm  
5 sorry, the licensee has not appeared.

6 When we were meeting in person, it was  
7 my -- it had always -- what I usually did is that  
8 I would call the case because we usually took the  
9 bench at 9:30. I would call the case at 9:30.  
10 And if the person was not there at 9:30, I would  
11 give them a half an hour grace period and recall  
12 the case at 10:00 o'clock.

13 And so if the person did not appear  
14 within that half an hour grace period, then I  
15 would make a motion to dismiss the matter. Here  
16 it is that we are participating virtually, this  
17 hearing was scheduled for 10:00 o'clock. It is  
18 now 10:30.

19 I've provided the licensee a half an  
20 hour grace period as the licensee has appeared  
21 for this hearing. With that said, I am then  
22 going to make a motion that the ABC Board dismiss  
23 the license application. Once the Board votes on  
24 this dismissal, the licensee will have ten days  
25 to appeal this decision to provide the Board with

1 reasonable notice why he failed to appear today.

2 If he does not -- if the Board is not  
3 convinced by his response -- by the licensee's  
4 response why he did not appear today, then the  
5 renewal application will be dismissed and then he  
6 will have to start the process over. So anyway,  
7 with that said, I then make a motion that the  
8 renewal application be dismissed based on the  
9 failure of the licensee to appear this morning.  
10 Is there a second?

11 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I second.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has  
13 second the motion. We'll now have a roll call  
14 vote on the motion that has been properly second  
15 by Mr. Short. Mr. Short?

16 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I agree.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Cato?

18 MEMBER CATO: Bobby Cato, I agree.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Wahabzadah?

20 MEMBER WAHABZADAH: Rema Wahabzadah,  
21 I agree.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Hansen?

23 MEMBER HANSEN: Jeni Hansen, I agree.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grandis?

25 (No audible response.)

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grandis is  
2 not there. Mr. Anderson, I agree. The matter  
3 therefore passed 5-0-0. So the Board will  
4 dismiss the renewal application based on the  
5 failure of the licensee to appear today.

6                   The licensee will have -- once the  
7 written order is issued, the licensee will have  
8 ten days to appeal the decision to give the Board  
9 reasonable notice -- reasonable cause why he  
10 failed to appear today. If that's not done, then  
11 the application is dismissed. All right. Thank  
12 you very much, ma'am, for your appearance today.

13                   MS. AKINSEYE: You guys have a great  
14 day. Thank you.

15                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And you have a  
16 great day. Thank you very much.

17                   MS. AKINSEYE: Bye.

18                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board then  
19 will be in -- this then ends our morning  
20 calendar, and the Board will be in recess until  
21 our 1:30 hearing this afternoon. I just want to  
22 remind Board members that they need to log on to  
23 our executive session at 1:15. However, we will  
24 reconvene for a public session at 1:30.

25                   So I will see the public at 1:30 for



1 our public hearing this afternoon. Have a good  
2 morning. I'll see the Board at 1:15 for  
3 executive session, and I'll see the public at  
4 1:30 for the resumption of our public hearing.  
5 All right. Thank you.

6 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
7 went off the record at 10:33 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: Charles Corner

Before: DCABRA

Date: 02-04-21

Place: teleconference

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



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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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