DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

+ + + + + MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:

:

Ng Shu Kwan,

t/a Chinatown Market : Protest Hearing

521 H Street, NW : (Status)

License # 019616 :
Retailer B - ANC 2C :
Case # 21-PRO-00002 :

:

(Application to Renew : License) :

Thursday February 11, 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:

SIMONE ANDREWS, DC ABRA Staff
KEVIN LEE, Licensee's Counsel
DOUG O'CONNOR, Protestant Representative,
Chinatown Flats (Group of Five or More)
MICHAEL SHANKLE, ANC 2C

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2 10:08 a.m. 3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case 4 in our calendar is Case No. 21-PRO-00002, 5 Chinatown Market, License No. 019616. 6 Andrews, can you please elevate the rights of the 7 licensee? I believe it's Mr. Kevin Lee who represents the licensee and there is ANC 2C and 8 9 the 6th Street Flats. They're the two 10 protestants. 11 MS. ANDREWS: Stand by. Sure. 12 (Pause.) MS. ANDREWS: Mr. Shankle, your rights 13 have been elevated. 14 15 Thank you. MR. SHANKLE: 16 MS. ANDREWS: Mr. Lee, your rights 17 have been elevated. I do believe that's all, Mr. 18 Oh, I'm sorry. There is a message in the Mr. O'Connor, I'm going to go ahead and 19 chat. 20 elevate your rights. Okay. That's all, Mr. 21 Chair. 22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, 23 I would like to the parties to please everyone. 24 identify themself for the record. I would ask

that you first spell your name, and we'll start

-	with the literages.
2	MR. LEE: Good morning, Board members.
3	My name is Kevin Lee representing Chinatown
4	Market in the matter of the protest.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And so Mr. Lee,
6	you're an attorney representing the licensee. Is
7	the licensee going to be here this morning?
8	MR. LEE: Yeah. He's not here today.
9	His name is Shu Kwan Ng.
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well
11	MR. LEE: That's
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: since you
13	gave the name, can you spell the name, please?
14	MR. LEE: Yeah, okay. S-H-U K-W-A-N,
15	last name, N-G.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
17	Thank you. Let's go with the ANC. Could the ANC
18	please identify themself and spell their name,
19	please?
20	MR. SHANKLE: Hi, I'm Michael Shankle,
21	M-I-C-H-A-E-L, last name, Shankle, S-H-A-N-K-L-E,
22	representing ANC 2C.
23	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
24	Mr. Shankle.
25	MR. SHANKLE: Good morning.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The group? Mr.
2	O'Connor?
3	MR. O'CONNOR: Good morning. How are
4	you doing, Mr. Anderson?
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning.
6	MR. O'CONNOR: My name is Doug
7	O'Connor; spelled D-O-U-G, last name, O,
8	apostrophe, C-O-N-N-O-R.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And who do you
10	represent, sir?
11	MR. O'CONNOR: I represent the
12	interests of the residents of Chinatown East,
13	also known as 6th Street Flats, address located -
14	- it's a condominium building at 809 6th Street,
15	Northwest, Washington, D.C. 20001.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
17	Thank you, sir. Mr. Lee, are there are any
18	preliminary matters that needs to be brought to
19	my attention?
20	MR. LEE: Yes, we had a mediation on
21	the 8th of February. And then we scheduled
22	another meeting on (audio interference). So we
23	have
24	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on.
25	MR. LEE: scheduled a second

1	mediation.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Lee, your
3	internet connection was very spotty. So I need
4	you to repeat
5	(Simultaneous speaking.)
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I need you to
7	repeat everything
8	MR. LEE: Okay.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: that you
10	stated, please.
11	MR. LEE: Okay. I'll repeat that. We
12	had a mediation on February 8th. And then we
13	schedule another mediation, second mediation on
14	February 26th. That's a Friday.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
16	Well, thank you
17	(Simultaneous speaking.)
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: for bringing
19	that to my attention. Mr
20	MR. LEE: Thank you.
21	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Shankle, any
22	preliminary matters that you want to bring to the
23	Board's attention?
24	MR. SHANKLE: No, other than that, we
25	are meeting outside of mediation on the 23rd as

well at the site to -- with all the parties to kind of review some of the concerns that we have in person.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr.
O'Connor, any issues that you want to bring to
our attention?

MR. O'CONNOR: No, sir. I'm just here to help verify. We look forward to resolving the issue and working with Chinatown Market and grateful to all parties. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, I like to hear that. I've always told folks that I prefer that folks settle matters because this is your community. And if you are able to settle the matter without having a hearing to have the ABC Board make a determination, then that works in the best interest of the community.

If you can't settle it, then we'll make a decision. But I always prefer when the community settles its matters. At least at the end of the day, everyone is happy.

But if it comes to the Board, someone might be happy. Another person will not be happy. And just as a technical issue, Mr.

O'Connor, you're given standing just as a group,

	not as an abutting, just as is it as a group
2	or as an abutting neighbor? Which one?
3	MR. O'CONNOR: I'm sorry. A group or
4	as a what? I don't understand.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: An abutting
6	neighbor. Which one were you given standing as,
7	your group? Was it a group of five or more, or
8	were you given standing as an abutting neighbor?
9	Do you know?
10	MR. O'CONNOR: We are more than five.
11	(Simultaneous speaking.)
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: technicality
13	of the question. But maybe Mr. Shankle can help
14	me.
15	MR. SHANKLE: They were given standing
16	as a group
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: As a group?
18	Okay.
19	MR. SHANKLE: of 11, yes.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
21	MR. SHANKLE: They are three doors
22	away from the property.
23	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Just and I
24	just want to say just as a technical issue, I
25	just want to because we have had it sometimes,

so I'm just mentioning this to you. If a settlement agreement is signed with ANC and if you don't sign onto that settlement agreement, unfortunately, you're going to lose your right to protest this matter. I just want to say -- I just want -- this is just as an FYI. So -- MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you. I appreciate that.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yeah, so it would behoove you to work with the ANC because if the ANC signs a settlement agreement as a group, then the matter will be over. So --

MR. O'CONNOR: We love working with the ANC. No problem.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

This is just an FYI. And the only reason why I mention it because we have groups come to us after to say, we need to move forward with a hearing because we still have our protest. And I just want to let -- by operation of law, that's just the way it is. Okay? So it's not personal. I just want to let you know. Okay? All right.

I don't have a date at the moment to provide for the protest hearing. But the Agency will contact the parties shortly to provide a

date and time for the protest hearing. But I hope we don't move to a protest hearing. I hope that the parties settle this matter.

But anyway, now that we have scheduled this matter or now that I've given you some idea about what's going to happen and that the Board will provide you a date shortly for the protest hearing, there are a few things that I would like to instruct you about because the Board's practices under COVID-19 restrictions have changed. As you know the Board's hearings are conducted virtually. So it is more important than ever that protest hearings are focused and addresses only those issues that are being protested.

Following this hearing, you will be receiving an email from Associate General Counsel April Randall that will include a copy of a protest information form, PIF, and a copy of an exhibit form as well as specific instructions for the hearing. You are required to complete and submit the PIF and exhibit forms at least seven days before the date of the hearing. If we do not receive a copy of your forms seven days before the hearing, your application or your

protest may be subject to dismissal.

These documents need to be submitted to ABRA.legal.gov to the -- and to the opposing parties. Please know that these documents greatly assist the Board in narrowing the protest issues, facilitating the process, and keeping the parties on point during the hearing. Each side is limited to no more than five witnesses, and you will have 60 minutes to present your case.

This includes all direct and crossexamination. The Board does not intend to hear testimony on matters that are not relevant to those issues that are being protested. Any questions by anyone?

MR. LEE: No, no.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. We thank you greatly for your cooperation. If you have any questions at any time leading up to the hearing, please do not hesitate to contact Associate General Counsel April Randall at 202-329-6354. Or you can contact her by email at april.randall2@dc.gov.

Thank you very much. Good luck with your conversations. And as I tell folks, if I don't see you in this forum at a protest hearing,

1	the Board will not take it personal. But good
2	luck in your negotiation. Thank you very much.
3	(Simultaneous speaking.)
4	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have a great
5	day then. All right. Bye-bye.
6	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
7	went off the record at 10:19 a.m.)
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<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Chinatown Market

Before: DCABRA

Date: 02-11-21

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

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