

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
+ + + + +
ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :
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Kaza Lounge, :
t/a Medusa Lounge :
2632 Georgia Ave NW #2 :
Retailer CT - ANC 1E :
License No. 12155 :
Case #24-PRO-00039 :
 :
(License Renewal) :
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Monday
April 24, 2023

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
met via WebEx videoconference, LaVerne Fletcher,
Board's Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

JOSH JACOBSON, ANC 1E

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

2 10:04 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, good
4 morning, everyone. Thank you for joining and
5 participating in ABRA's roll call hearing via the
6 WebEx platform provided by the D.C. Office of
7 Open Government. My name is LaVerne Fletcher.
8 I'll be conducting the roll call hearing as the
9 Board's agent.

10 There is one case on the calendar
11 today. This is Case No. 23-PRO-00039, Kaza
12 Lounge, LLC, trading as Medusa Lounge, 2632
13 Georgia Avenue, NW, #2, License No. 121559. This
14 is a Retailer Class CT license renewal. The
15 protest issues are adverse impact on peace,
16 order, and quiet, and residential parking needs,
17 and vehicular and pedestrian safety.

18 Is there anyone present on behalf of
19 Medusa Lounge? Is there anyone present on behalf
20 of Medusa Lounge? The time is approximately
21 10:05. We allow 10 minutes for all parties to
22 appear in the case if they are experiencing any
23 technical difficulties.

24 Is anyone here on behalf of ANC-1E?

25 MR. JACOBSON: Yes. This is Josh

1 Jacobson, member of ANC-1E for 1E06.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr.
3 Jacobson. Would you spell your name for the
4 record, please?

5 MR. JACOBSON: J-A-C-O-B-S-O-N.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Jacobson, we're
7 going to wait for an additional five minutes
8 before we proceed to give the Applicant time to
9 show up.

10 MR. JACOBSON: Sounds good. Thank
11 you.

12 MS. FLETCHER: I'm going to check my
13 emails to make sure he hasn't tried to contact
14 me.

15 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went
16 off the record at 10:06 a.m. and resumed at 10:10
17 a.m.)

18 MS. FLETCHER: The time is
19 approximately 10:10. There's no one present on
20 behalf of the Applicant and I have not received
21 any communication from the Applicant indicating
22 that he was not able to join today. Therefore,
23 the license renewal application is dismissed.

24 What that means, Mr. Jacobson, is that
25 the ABC Board will issue an order dismissing the

1 application. Upon receipt of the order the
2 Applicant will have 10 days to seek reinstatement
3 of the application providing the Board with a
4 good cause for why he was not present today.

5 With respect to the protest filed by
6 ANC-1E, Mr. Jacobson, I read your protest letter
7 and there were some deficiencies in the letter.
8 I'll tell you what they are. As a result of
9 those, the protest will have to be dismissed, but
10 let me tell you why.

11 When an ANC files a protest letter,
12 the protest letter has to state that a regularly
13 scheduled publicly noticed hearing was held
14 concerning the application, that there was a
15 quorum present, and that a vote was taken by the
16 ANC to protest the application.

17 That may have been done. If that was
18 done, you can inform the ABC Board and provide
19 them with the evidence you have that was actually
20 done. For those reasons, the protest is
21 dismissed because those are requirements for a
22 protest filed by an ANC.

23 MR. JACOBSON: Okay. That was done so
24 I'll just double check that there weren't any
25 issues with the transmission of the letter and

1 make sure that documentation is in there.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Exactly. Mr. Jacobson,
3 whatever you have, the same thing applies to the
4 ANC. I mean, you may not have known at this
5 stage that those were requirements to be put in
6 the protest letter so the ANC will receive a
7 dismissal order for the reasons that I just
8 stated. Then, as you said, you can just let the
9 Board know those things were done and ask the
10 Board to reinstate the protest.

11 MR. JACOBSON: Okay.

12 MS. FLETCHER: And also, Mr. Jacobson,
13 you'll get a copy of the order dismissing the
14 renewal application also and we'll keep you
15 posted about what happens with that, and vice
16 versa.

17 MR. JACOBSON: Got it. Okay.

18 MS. FLETCHER: As a matter of fact,
19 there will probably be one Board order because
20 the action was the same in both cases today, but
21 you'll be kept informed if the Applicant seeks
22 reinstatement and you'll have an opportunity to
23 respond to that.

24 MR. JACOBSON: Got it. And in the
25 case of the Applicant seeks reinstatement and we

1 provide the sufficient documentation for the
2 protest, is it just basically like we're starting
3 over with this meeting again at some point in the
4 future?

5 MS. FLETCHER: No. What will happen
6 is -- so the roll call hearing has already been
7 held. We are holding that today. If the Board
8 reinstates your protest, we will start with a
9 mediation. So if --

10 MR. JACOBSON: Got it. Okay.

11 MS. FLETCHER: So we won't have to
12 hold the mediation -- well, I guess the Board
13 will have to decide. If they grant you standing
14 as a protestant, we won't need to have the roll
15 call hearing again because that's one of the
16 purposes of the roll call hearing is to determine
17 who has standing as a protestant.

18 MR. JACOBSON: Got it. Okay.

19 MS. FLETCHER: We will just start with
20 mediation

21 MR. JACOBSON: That sounds good.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Well, Mr. Jacobson,
23 thank you for coming today and hope to see you
24 soon.

25 MR. JACOBSON: Thank you. You, too.

1 Have a good day.

2 MS. FLETCHER: You, too.

3 The roll call hearing in this matter
4 is concluded.

5 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went
6 off the record at 10:14 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: Medusa Lounge

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 04-24-23

Place: teleconference

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



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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