



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

2 10:34 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,  
4 everyone. As chairperson of the Alcoholic  
5 Beverage Control Board for the District of  
6 Columbia, in accordance with D.C. Official Code,  
7 Section 2576 of the Open Meetings Act, I am  
8 welcoming you to the regularly scheduled meeting  
9 of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

10 This meeting is being conducted  
11 pursuant to guidance made available by the  
12 District of Columbia's Office of Open Government  
13 regarding electronic meetings held by public  
14 bodies during the public health emergency.

15 Pursuant to this guidance, notice of  
16 today's meeting was provided 48 hours in advance  
17 of the meeting on ABRA's website and on the  
18 District's central meeting calendar. The notice  
19 included the time, date, agenda, and call in or  
20 login information for public participation.

21 This electronic meeting is being  
22 hosted by a WebEx account provided by the  
23 District of Columbia government. Please address  
24 any questions or complaints to the OOG at  
25 [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).

1 My name is Donovan Anderson. I'm  
2 Chairman of the Board. I would like to introduce  
3 the other members of the ABC Board who are also  
4 participating electronically pursuant to Mayor's  
5 Order 2020-054. Please respond when I announce  
6 your name. Mr. James Short?

7 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short,  
8 present.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Rafi  
10 Crockett?

11 MEMBER CROCKETT: Rafi Crockett,  
12 present.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Jeni Hansen?

14 MEMBER HANSEN: Jeni Hansen, present.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Edward  
16 Grandis?

17 MEMBER GRANDIS: Edward Grandis,  
18 present.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has  
20 five members in attendance for conduct of  
21 business today, and that constitutes a quorum.

22 Before we get underway with today's  
23 hearing calendar, I need to make a few  
24 instructions very clear so that the conduct of  
25 this hearing is understood by everyone.

1                   There are six cases scheduled for this  
2 morning's calendar. Once a case is called, I will  
3 take a moment for our IT specialist to elevate  
4 the rights for each party to enable their camera  
5 and microphone. Then, and only then, will you  
6 have the ability to enable your equipment.

7                   If your case is not being heard, you  
8 will remain mute, and your camera will be  
9 disabled. At the conclusion of each case, the  
10 parties will have the option to leave. If the  
11 party chooses to stay, all cameras and  
12 microphones for the conclusion of the case will  
13 be disabled.

14                   Should you have any questions or  
15 require technical assistance during the hearing,  
16 please submit them using the question and answer  
17 feature or email [simone.andrews2@dc.gov](mailto:simone.andrews2@dc.gov).

18                   Our first order of business today is  
19 a protest hearing status, Case Number 21-PRO-  
20 00021, Alice Bar and Lounge, License Number  
21 117897.

22                   Ms. Anderson, can you please elevate  
23 the rights of the parties in this case?

24                   MS. ANDREWS: Sure, just a minute.  
25 Mr. Minora, your rights have been elevated.

1 MR. MINORA: Good morning.

2 MS. ANDREWS: That's all I have for  
3 this case, Mr. Chair. Let me check the call-in  
4 numbers.

5 (Simultaneous speaking.)

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The ANC, we  
7 should find -- for the ANC it's James Turner and  
8 Sabel Harris. It's my understanding they're the  
9 Protestants, the ANC 1B.

10 MS. ANDREWS: Okay. One second, there  
11 are about 30 participants. So let me go through.  
12 One second.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Could the  
14 parties, if you are here for Alice Bar and  
15 Lounge, can you please identify yourself in the  
16 chat, please, or identify yourself to Ms. Andrews  
17 so she will know to elevate your rights?

18 Who is John Lee, who is that person?

19 MR. MINORA: He is one of the owners  
20 of Alice Bar and Lounge.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Now, the  
22 reason why he's put in the chat, but he can't  
23 hear, I don't know what is it he can't hear. So  
24 I don't know.

25 MS. ANDREWS: That's all I have, Mr.

1 Chair.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. I  
3 am going to, I apologize to you, Mr. Minora, but  
4 this is what I normally do for, if we were  
5 meeting in meeting in person. I will recall this  
6 case once I go through the morning calendar. And  
7 if the ANC fails to appear, I will dismiss their  
8 protest.

9 And so what I do I do, Ms. Andrews, so  
10 they can remain online, maybe until I recall the  
11 case?

12 MS. ANDREWS: Sure, I will change  
13 their rights back to an attendee, and you guys  
14 can just stay on. And I'll elevate your rights  
15 once we recall, okay?

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, Mr.  
17 Minora?

18 MR. MINORA: Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

20 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
21 went off the record at 10:41 a.m. and resumed at  
22 11:59 a.m.)

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Let  
24 me go back to the first case on our calendar.  
25 I'm recalling Case Number 21-PRO-00021, Alice Bar

1 and Lounge, excuse me, License Number 117897.  
2 The Counsel for Alice Bar and Lounge is Matthew  
3 Minora, and the ANC is ANC 1B.

4 Ms. Andrews, can you please elevate  
5 the rights of the parties when you have a chance?  
6 I think once you have dismissed all the parties,  
7 once you have had a chance to do that for the --

8 MS. ANDREWS: Yes. Stand by.

9 Mr. Minora, your rights have been  
10 elevated.

11 MR. MINORA: Hello again.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is there a  
13 representative from the ANC available?

14 MS. ANDREWS: I do not see them signed  
15 on, Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Ms.  
17 Andrews.

18 Is there a motion you wish to make,  
19 Mr. Minora?

20 MR. MINORA: Excuse me?

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is there a  
22 motion you want to make?

23 MR. MINORA: A motion that I would  
24 make? I mean, just the ANC hasn't appeared, so  
25 the case is going to be dismissed on those grounds.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

2 Thank you, Mr. Minora.

3 This matter was scheduled for a  
4 protest hearing at 10:30. At 10:40 I called the  
5 case, and the representative of the ANC did not  
6 appear for a 10:30 calendar call. I believe we  
7 went online at 10:40.

8 It is now 12:01. I'm recalling the  
9 case. And ANC 1B is still not here. So  
10 therefore I make a motion, per the request of the  
11 Licensee, that the ANC's protest be dismissed and  
12 that the Agency move forward to renew and also to  
13 granting -- that the Agency move forward with the  
14 application towards granting a license to Alice  
15 Bar and Lounge. Is there a second?

16 MEMBER CROCKETT: Ms. Crockett seconds.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Crockett  
18 has seconded the motion. We'll now have a roll  
19 call vote on the motion.

20 Mr. Short?

21 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I agree.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Crockett?

23 MEMBER CROCKETT: Rafi Crockett, I  
24 agree.

25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Hansen?



1 MEMBER HANSEN: Jeni Hansen, I agree.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grandis?

3 MEMBER GRANDIS: Edward Grandis, I  
4 agree.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And Mr.

6 Anderson, I agree. The matter passes 5, 0, 0.

7 The Board will issue a decision  
8 dismissing the ANC's protest and instructing the  
9 Agency to move forward with granting this  
10 license, move forward with the process to grant  
11 the license.

12 The ANC will be given ten days to  
13 provide a good cause why they failed to report  
14 today. If the Board finds that good cause does  
15 not exist or if they fail to respond, then the  
16 Agency will move forward in its process towards  
17 granting this license.

18 Thank you for your participation, Mr.  
19 Minora, and have a great day.

20 MR. MINORA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
21 appreciate it.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

23 Thank you.

24 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
25 went off the record at 12:02 p.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: Alice Bar and Lounge

Before: DCABRA

Date: 06-30-21

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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