

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD
+ + + + +
MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
BLOOM AT NORTH LLC :
t/a BLOOM@NORTH :
827 Upshur Street NW : Protest
Retailer MC - ANC 4C : Hearing (Status)
License No. 127912 :
Case #24-PRO-00072 :
 :
(Application for a :
New License) :
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Wednesday
August 14, 2024

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

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
SILAS GRANT, JR., Member
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member

ALSO PRESENT:

JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff
ANTONIO BULLOCK, Applicant

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

2 10:47 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
4 we're on the record. Good morning, as
5 chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage and
6 Cannabis Board for the District of Columbia and
7 in accordance with DC Code Section 2571 et seq.
8 of the Open Meetings Act, OMA, I am welcoming you
9 to the regularly scheduled meeting of the
10 Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board.

11 This meeting is being conducted
12 pursuant to guidance made available by the
13 District of Columbia's Office of Open Government
14 regarding electronic meetings held by public
15 bodies. Electronic meetings by the ABC Board are
16 authorized pursuant to Section 2577A of the DC
17 Code. Pursuant to the OMA requirements, notice
18 of today's meeting was provided 48 hours in
19 advance of the meeting on ABCA's website and on
20 the District's central meeting calendar. The
21 notice includes the time, date, agenda, and the
22 call-in or log in information for public
23 participation.

24 This electronic meeting is being
25 hosted by a WebEx account provided by the

1 District of Columbia government. Please address
2 any questions or complaints to the OOG at
3 opengovoffice@dc.gov.

4 My name is Donovan Anderson, I'm the
5 chairperson of the Board. I would like to
6 introduce the other members of the ABC Board who
7 are also participating electronically. Please
8 respond when I announce your names. Mr. James
9 Short?

10 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Silas
12 Grant?

13 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Silas Grant,
14 present.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has
16 three members in attendance for the conduct of
17 business today and that constitutes a quorum.
18 Before we get underway with today's hearing
19 calendar, I need to make a few instructions very
20 clear so that the conduct of these hearings is
21 understood by everyone.

22 There are five hearings on our morning
23 calendar. Once your case is called, I will take
24 a moment for IT specialist to elevate the rights
25 for each party and to enable their camera and

1 microphone. Then and only then will you have the
2 ability to enable your equipment.

3 If your case is not being heard, you
4 will remain mute and your camera will be
5 disabled. At the conclusion of each case, the
6 parties will have the option to leave. If the
7 party chooses to stay, all cameras and
8 microphones for the concluded cases will be
9 disabled. Should you have any questions or
10 require technical assistance during the hearing,
11 please submit them using the question and answer
12 feature.

13 Now let us turn to our calendar. Our
14 first calendar item today is a protest hearing
15 status, Case Number 24-PRO-00074, BLOOM AT NORTH,
16 License Number 127912. Good morning, Mr.
17 Orellana, can you please elevate the rights of
18 the parties in this case?

19 MR. ORELLANA: Good morning, Chairman.
20 Antonio Bullock, your access has been elevated.
21 And I don't see the protestant.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Mr.
23 Bullock, do you have a camera to turn on, sir?

24 Good morning, Mr. Bullock. Can you
25 spell and state your name for the record, and

1 your relationship?

2 MR. BULLOCK: Good morning, Antonio
3 Bullock, A-N-T-O-N-I-O B-U-L-L-O-C-K.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is
5 your relationship to the establishment, sir?

6 MR. BULLOCK: I'm the owner at BLOOM
7 AT NORTH.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now, this is a
9 protest hearing for a new license, and I do not
10 see the protestant at this hearing. And this is
11 a hearing that was scheduled for 10:30, it's
12 10:31 and the protestant is not here. This is a
13 new license at -- once we're at a protest
14 hearing, the -- there are two hearings that are
15 mandatory for the parties to appear.

16 It's mandatory for the parties to
17 appear at the roll call hearing, and it's also
18 mandatory for the parties to appear at the
19 protest hearing status. The protestant is not
20 here. I have not received any motions from the
21 protestants asking for a continuation, so unless
22 there is something else I am missing, I'm
23 inclined to make a motion to dismiss the protest.

24 And one of the reasons why I will do
25 this in this particular case, this matter was

1 protested by ANC 4C. In reviewing the protest
2 letter, there are seven members in this ANC.
3 Should any ANC member -- any member of the
4 commission should be available to come on the
5 phone this morning as a placeholder. It's not
6 specific that it has to be any specific ANC
7 representative, all that's required from the
8 seven member ANC is that one ANC member shows up
9 today to be on the record.

10 If there is any questions and any --
11 do you want to make a representation, sir?
12 Because I'll make a motion to dismiss the ANC.

13 MR. BULLOCK: No questions, sir.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, so
15 I'm going to make a motion to dismiss the
16 protest. The reasons why we the Board will be
17 voting to dismiss the protest is that it is
18 mandatory at a protest status hearing for the
19 parties to be here. And since there's no
20 representative from the ANC here, I'll make a
21 motion for the protest to be dismissed.

22 Once, if the Board approves this
23 motion, the ANC will be given ten days to give
24 reasonable notice why they failed to appear this
25 morning. Unless the ANC can do that, then the

1 Board will advise the agency to move forward with
2 the process towards issuing the license. So I
3 make a motion that the protest by the ANC be
4 dismissed. Is there a second?

5 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I second.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has
7 seconded the motion. We'll have a roll call
8 vote. Mr. Short?

9 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I agree.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grant?

11 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Grant, I agree.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And Mr.

13 Anderson, I agree. The matter passes 3-0. What
14 the Board has ruled this morning is to dismiss
15 the protest by the ANC. The Board will issue a
16 Board order dismissing the protest. The ANC,
17 however, will be given ten days to provide us
18 notice, reasonable notice, why one of the seven
19 member from this ANC failed to appear at this
20 protest hearing status this morning.

21 Unless the party, the ANC, can provide
22 this Board with reasonable notice why they failed
23 to appear today, the Board will order the agency
24 to move forward procedurally in approving the --
25 to follow whatever steps that are required

1 towards approving issuing the license. All
2 right? Any questions, sir?

3 MR. BULLOCK: No, sir. Thank you,
4 sir.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have a great
6 day, thank you.

7 MR. BULLOCK: Thanks.

8 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
9 went off the record at 10:55 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: BLOOM@NORTH

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 08-14-24

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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