

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
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 ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :

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Neighborhood Restaurant :

Group VII, LLC :

t/a Birch & :

Barley/Churchkey :

1337 14th Street NW : Roll Call

Retailer CR - ANC 2F : Hearing

License No. 080839 :

Case #22-PRO-00098 :

:

(License Renewal) :

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Monday  
 October 3, 2022

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

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

SIDON YOHANNES, Applicant Counsel

STEPHANIE BABIN, Applicant

SUE PITMAN, Protestant, Group of Six

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

2 10:01 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning, everyone.

4 Thank you for participating in ABRA's roll call  
5 hearing via the WebEx platform provided by the  
6 D.C. Government, Office of Open Government.

7 My name is LaVerne Fletcher. I'll be  
8 conducting the roll call hearing as the Board's  
9 agent. There are three cases on the calendar  
10 today. The first case on the calendar is Birch  
11 and Barley/Churchkey, Case No. 22 PRO-00098,  
12 Neighborhood Restaurant Group VII, LLC, 1337 14th  
13 Street, NW, License No. ABRA 080839.

14 This is a Retailer Class CR License  
15 Renewal. The protest issues are adverse impact  
16 on peace, order, and quiet. My name is LaVerne  
17 Fletcher conducting the roll call hearing as the  
18 Board's agent. Is anyone present on behalf of  
19 the establishment?

20 MS. YOHANNES: Good morning. Sidon  
21 Yohannes here on behalf of the licensee. I  
22 believe the principal is here as well. That's  
23 Sidon Yohannes, S-I-D-O-N Y-O-H-A-N-N-E-S.

24 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning, Ms.  
25 Yohannes. Who did you say is here as well?

1 MS. YOHANNES: The owner is also here.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. If you would  
3 please state your name and spell it for the  
4 record.

5 MS. YOHANNES: I think we have --

6 MS. FLETCHER: Is that whose number  
7 ends in 89?

8 MS. YOHANNES: I thought we had Ms.  
9 Babin here, but we can move forward. That's  
10 fine.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. If he shows up  
12 -- and if he shows up, he can introduce himself  
13 at that time. Thanks, Ms. Yohannes.

14 Is anyone here on behalf of the Group  
15 of VI?

16 MS. PITMAN: Hi. This is Sue Pitman,  
17 the designated representative.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Ms. Pitman.  
19 Would you spell your name for the record, please?

20 MS. PITMAN: Yes. It's S-U-S-A-N P-  
21 I-T-M-A-N.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Ms. Pitman.  
23 My understanding is that you are going to be  
24 withdrawing the protest on behalf of the Group of  
25 VI?

1 MS. PITMAN: That's correct based on  
2 a conversation with Ms. Babin.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. And so what I'm  
4 going to do, I'm going to go ahead and give you  
5 dates for the upcoming status and protest  
6 hearing, but I'm not going to schedule mediation.

7 MS. PITMAN: Okay.

8 MS. FLETCHER: What I'm expecting  
9 based on what you're saying, Ms. Pitman, is that  
10 the status and protest hearing are also going to  
11 be cancelled upon receipt of the withdrawal.

12 MS. PITMAN: That's correct. Can I  
13 ask a question?

14 MS. FLETCHER: And so you will not  
15 receive the status and protesting hearing  
16 invitations either because you will withdraw  
17 before then. Just for the record, I'll tell you  
18 what those dates are.

19 MS. PITMAN: Yes.

20 MS. FLETCHER: The status hearing is  
21 set for November 2, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

22 MS. PITMAN: Okay.

23 MS. FLETCHER: And the protest hearing  
24 is set for December 14, 2022 at 1:30. I'm not  
25 going to schedule mediation because I'm expecting

1 that you'll submit the withdrawal so we won't do  
2 that. The Group of VI is granted conditional  
3 standing today, Ms. Pitman, because you're here  
4 today on behalf of the Group of VI.

5 MS. PITMAN: Yep.

6 MS. FLETCHER: The group will be  
7 granted full standing if at least four additional  
8 people appear for the status hearing but it  
9 doesn't appear that we are ever going to get to  
10 that point. If we do, if the status hearing is  
11 held, at least four people from the group that  
12 aren't present today will need to appear at that  
13 time.

14 MS. PITMAN: Okay.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.  
16 Any questions about that?

17 MS. PITMAN: Yeah. I just want to  
18 know where there is an official withdrawal form?

19 MS. FLETCHER: No, not at all. As a  
20 matter of fact, you know the email that you sent?

21 MS. PITMAN: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: That would have been  
23 fine if you had signed it. You can just send a  
24 statement saying we withdraw the protest. If you  
25 sign it, that will be sufficient.

1 MS. PITMAN: Thank you.

2 MS. FLETCHER: I believe, Ms. Pitman,  
3 that you had already included the case and the  
4 case number in the subject line.

5 MS. PITMAN: I did.

6 MS. FLETCHER: That's all this needed  
7 and we can go forward with that. We will place  
8 that withdrawal on the Board's agenda for  
9 approval. Once they approve it, the Board will  
10 issue an order approving the withdrawal.

11 MS. PITMAN: Okay. Just to clarify,  
12 signatures from all signees, original  
13 signatories, or just me?

14 MS. FLETCHER: Just you.

15 MS. PITMAN: Okay. Oh, I didn't know.  
16 Okay, thank you.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Just you as the  
18 designated representative. That would be fine.

19 MS. PITMAN: Thank you.

20 MS. FLETCHER: You're welcome. That's  
21 it, Ms. Pitman

22 Ms. Sidon, you know what happens next.  
23 I'm sure you don't have any questions.

24 MS. YOHANNES: I have none.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, the roll

1 call hearing in the matter of Birch and Barley is  
2 concluded.

3 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went  
4 off the record at 10:06 a.m.)

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<b>A</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S</b>
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**1**

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**89** 3:7

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Churchkey

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 10-03-22

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.

*Neal R Gross*

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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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