

IN THE MATTER OF: :
:
Quara Ethiopian Fusion :
Restaurant, LLC :
t/a Quara Ethiopian :
Fusion Restaurant : Show Cause
818 H Street NE : Hearing (Status)
Retailer CR - ANC 6A :
License No. 105042 :
Case #19-AUD-00041 :
:
(Failed to File Quarterly:
Statement) :

Wednesday
November 4, 2020

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

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
BOBBY CATO, JR., Member
RAFI ALIYA CROCKETT, Member
EDWARD S. GRANDIS, Member
JENI HANSEN, Member
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member
REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

SIMONE ANDREWS, DC ABRA Staff
FRED MOOSALLY, Director, DC ABRA
STEPHEN ORTIZ, DC OAG

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

10:38 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, everyone. As chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for the District of Columbia, in accordance with DC Official Code Section 25764 of the Open Meetings Act, I am welcoming you to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

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

Pursuant to this guidance, notice of today's meeting was provided 48 hours in advance of the meeting on ABRA's website and on the District's central meeting calendar.

The notice included the time, date, agenda and call-in or login information for public participation.

This electronic meeting is being hosted by a WebEx account provided by the District of Columbia government. Please address any questions or complaints to the OAG at

1 opengovoffice@dc.gov.

2 My name is Donovan Anderson and I am
3 the chairman of the Board. I would like to
4 introduce the other members of the ABC Board who
5 are also participating electronically pursuant to
6 Mayor's Order 2020-054. Please respond when I
7 announce your name.

8 Mr. James Short.

9 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Bobby Cato.

11 MEMBER CATO: Bobby Cato present.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Rema
13 Wahabzadah.

14 MEMBER WAHABZADAH: Rema Wahabzadah
15 present.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Rafi
17 Crockett.

18 MEMBER CROCKETT: Rafi Crockett
19 present.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Jeni Hansen.

21 MEMBER HANSEN: Jeni Hansen present.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Ed Grandis.

23 MEMBER GRANDIS: Ed Grandis present.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has
25 seven members in attendance for the conducting of

1 business today and that constitutes a quorum.

2 Before we get underway with today's
3 hearing calendar, I need to make a few
4 instructions very clear so that the conduct of
5 these hearings is understood by everyone.

6 Today's hearings are being conducted
7 through a WebEx account provided by the DC Office
8 of Open Government.

9 There are eight cases scheduled for
10 today. We have a morning session and an
11 afternoon session.

12 Once your case is called, I will take
13 a moment for our IT specialist to elevate the
14 rights for each party to enable their camera and
15 microphone. Then, and only then, will you have
16 the ability to engage your equipment.

17 If your case has not been heard, you
18 will remain mute and your camera will be
19 disabled.

20 At the conclusion of each case, the
21 parties will have the option to leave. If a
22 party chooses to stay, all cameras and
23 microphones for the concluded case will be
24 disabled.

25 Should you have any questions or

1 require technical assistance during the hearing,
2 please submit them using the question-and-answer
3 feature or email simone.andrews2@dc.gov.

4 Our first order of business today is
5 Case No. -- It's a show cause hearing (status).
6 Case No. 19-AUD-00041. Quara Ethiopian Fusion
7 Restaurant. License No. 105042.

8 I will now take a moment for our IT
9 specialist to elevate the rights for each party
10 of this case to enable their camera and
11 microphone.

12 Ms. Andrews, can you please elevate
13 the rights of the OAG attorney, Mr. Steve Ortiz,
14 please.

15 MS. ANDREWS: Mr. Ortiz, your camera
16 and your microphone has been enabled.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And can you
18 please elevate the rights of Mr. Merchaw Senshaw
19 if he's on the line, please.

20 MS. ANDREWS: He is not present, Mr.
21 Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Alright.

23 Mr. Ortiz, this is a show cause
24 hearing (status). Good morning. Please identify
25 yourself for the record, please.

1 MR. ORTIZ: Good morning, Board
2 Members. Stephen Ortiz on behalf of the District
3 of Columbia.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And I see that
5 (Audio interference.) I know sometimes we have had
6 conversation with the licensee. So, we're not
7 sure when the licensee is going to show up.

8 But just as an FYI, have you had any
9 conversation with the licensee, Mr. Ortiz?

10 MR. ORTIZ: Yes. I have had
11 conversations with the licensee trying to
12 negotiate this matter.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Alright. Well,
14 what I will do, because this is a show cause
15 hearing (status), I will -- the Board then will
16 set this matter for a show cause hearing for a
17 date to be determined.

18 We don't have an exact date, but we
19 will determine that date and we will advise you
20 of the date, Mr. Ortiz, and hopefully you will be
21 in communication with the licensee and program
22 the date. Alright. Thank you.

23 MR. ORTIZ: Thank you.

24 (Whereupon, the above entitled matter
25 went off the record at 10:40 a.m.)

<p>A</p> <p>a.m 2:2 6:25 ABC 3:4 ability 4:16 ABRA 1:23,23 ABRA's 2:17 account 2:23 4:7 Act 2:7 address 2:24 advance 2:16 advise 6:19 afternoon 4:11 agenda 2:20 Alcoholic 1:2,14 2:4,9 ALIYA 1:19 Alright 5:22 6:13,22 ANC 1:8 Anderson 1:15,18 2:3 3:2,10,12,16,20,22,24 5:17,22 6:4,13 Andrews 1:23 5:12,15 5:20 announce 3:7 assistance 5:1 attendance 3:25 attorney 5:13 Audio 6:5 available 2:11</p>	<p>clear 4:4 Code 2:6 Columbia 1:1 2:6,24 6:3 Columbia's 2:12 communication 6:21 complaints 2:25 concluded 4:23 conclusion 4:20 conduct 4:4 conducted 2:10 4:6 conducting 3:25 constitutes 4:1 Control 1:2,14 2:5,9 conversation 6:6,9 conversations 6:11 CR 1:8 Crockett 1:19 3:17,18 3:18</p>	<p>G</p> <p>government 2:12,24 4:8 Grandis 1:19 3:22,23 3:23 guidance 2:11,15</p> <p>H</p> <p>H 1:8 Hansen 1:20 3:20,21,21 health 2:14 heard 4:17 hearing 1:8 4:3 5:1,5,24 6:15,16 hearings 4:5,6 held 2:13 hopefully 6:20 hosted 2:23 hours 2:16</p>	<p>microphones 4:23 moment 4:13 5:8 MOOSALLY 1:23 morning 2:3 4:10 5:24 6:1 mute 4:18</p>
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	<p>F</p> <p>Failed 1:10 feature 5:3 File 1:10 first 5:4 FRED 1:23 Fusion 1:6,7 5:6 FYI 6:8</p>	<p>Q</p> <p>Quara 1:6,7 5:6 Quarterly 1:10 question-and-answer 5:2 questions 2:25 4:25 quorum 4:1</p> <p>R</p> <p>Rafi 1:19 3:16,18 record 5:25 6:25 regarding 2:13 regularly 2:8</p>	<p>P</p> <p>P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2:1 participating 3:5 participation 2:21 parties 4:21 party 4:14,22 5:9 please 2:24 3:6 5:2,12 5:14,18,19,24,25 present 1:17,22 3:11,15 3:19,21,23 5:20 presiding 1:15 program 6:21 provided 2:16,23 4:7 public 2:13,14,21 pursuant 2:11,15 3:5</p>

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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: Quara

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 11-04-20

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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