



**Minutes of the Liquor Control Review Board
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 – 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall – Room 124**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Chair Sarah Corbin

Present: Chair Sarah Corbin, Members Emily Masalski, Todd Kuna, and Melody Kratz
Absent: None.
Also Present: Village Attorney Paul Stephanides, Development Services Director Emily Egan, and Economic Vitality Administrator Cameron Davis

3. **Agenda Approval:**

A motion was made by Member Kuna and seconded by Member Masalski to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was approved by voice vote.

4. **Minutes Approval:**

A motion was made by Member Masalski and seconded by Member Kratz to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2024 meeting of the Liquor Control Review Board ("LCRB"). The motion was approved by voice vote and the minutes were approved.

5. **Public Comment:**

None.

6. **New Business:**

A. Application of VFJ Enterprises II Inc., DBA Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, for the Issuance of a Restaurant Class B-6 Liquor License at 543 Madison Street

Tonya VanDyke Johnson, the owner of the restaurant, presented the application to the LCRB on behalf of VFJ Enterprises II Inc., DBA Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles ("Chicken & Waffles"). Chicken & Waffles was previously approved for a B-2 liquor license but did not request the issuance of the license. Chicken & Waffles no seeks a Class B-6 BYO license.

The LCRB asked how other communities in the area address BYO liquor licenses. Cameron Davis presented the information gathered. There are many similarities with in the codes of other communities with regard to the handling of the alcohol, but

corkage fees varied more widely. About 50% of the communities allow corkage fees and have no limitation on the amount of the fee. The recommendation of DCS is to allow a corkage fee in Oak Park.

Davis also noted that the BYO fee for Oak Park is much lower than surrounding communities. DCS proposes updating the fee schedule and limiting the quantity of alcohol.

Proposed language for changes to the Village Code necessary to effectuate these changes was presented to the LCRB.

A motion was made by Member Masalski to approve the proposed Restaurant Class B-6 Liquor License modifications and update the Code to reflect the hours of 7:00 a.m. through 11:00 p.m. and only when food is available for purchase; to amend Section B-6, which would allow a BYO establishment to impose any fee or charge on its customers related to the consumption of BYO beer or wine within the establishment, including without limitation any corkage fee or fee for supplies, disposal, storage, or other services; and to amend the Code to provide that for the annual fee for such liquor license for a restaurant with seating capacity of 100 or more person shall be \$450.00, for a restaurant with a seating capacity of between 99 and for 50 persons, the annual fee for such license shall be \$350.00, and for a restaurant with a seating capacity of below 49 persons the annual fee for such a license shall be \$250.00. Member Kratz seconded the motion.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Corbin, Kuna, Masalski, Kratz

NAYS: None

The motion was adopted.

A motion was made by Member Kuna to recommend approval of a BYO Class B-6 liquor license for Chicken & Waffles. Member Masalski seconded the motion.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Corbin, Kuna, Masalski, Kratz

NAYS: None

The motion was adopted.

B. Application of Atticus Edison LLC, DBA Val's Halla Records, for Certain Amendments to the Oak Park Village Code to Create a New Class D-10-2 Liquor License Classification

Cameron Davis presented the recommended amendments to the Village Code to the LCRB regarding the creation of a new Class D-10-2 liquor license. Davis presented the research regarding license categories in other communities similar to the one proposed. Communities that do have a "coffee house" type license similar to what is being proposed are Arlington Heights, Elmhurst, and Oak Brook. Fees and hours during which alcohol can be served vary.

Within Oak Park, there are six or seven coffee houses which have seating for 10 to 19 persons. Three are in the 20 to 28 range and two that have over 30 seats. The largest coffee house in Oak Park is Fairgrounds, which seats 52. The smallest is Kribi, which has seating for three.

The current proposal limits the license to establishments with indoor seating for at least ten and requires the availability of food for purchase. It would not be limited to only beer and wine.

Trevor Toppen, owner of Atticus Edison LLC, presented the application to the LCRB. He spoke of the plans for Val's Halla which include more events to supplement the foot traffic. There are also plans for a collaboration with Dark Matter coffee and also a local bakery. There are plans to provide customers with seating.

The LCRB discussed aspects of the proposed changes.

A motion was made by Member Kratz to recommend approval of certain amendments to the Oak Park Village Code to create a new Class D-10-2 Liquor License Classification. Member Kuna seconded the motion.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Corbin, Kuna, Masalski, Kratz

NAYS: None

The motion was adopted.

C. Application of Atticus Edison LLC, DBA Val's Halla Records, for a Coffee House and Teashop Class D-10-2 Liquor License at 239 Harrison Street

A motion was made by Member Kratz to recommend approval of the application of Atticus Edison LLC, DBA Val's Halla Records, for a Coffee House and Teashop Class D-10-2 Liquor License at 239 Harrison Street. Member Kuna seconded the motion.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Corbin, Kuna, Masalski, Kratz

NAYS: None

The motion was adopted.

D. May 2024 Renewals

A motion was made by Member Masalski to approve the May 2024 annual renewals. Member Kuna seconded the motion.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Corbin, Kuna, Masalski, Kratz

NAYS: None

The motion was adopted.

7. **Old Business:**

None.

8. **Administrative Report:**

DCS is working with American House on a proposed classification for its facility. Other new applications are being processed by DCA and DCS is also examining the possibility of proposing the elimination of certain classifications.

9. **Board Member Comments:**

Member Masalski inquired about open seats on the LCRB. Chair Corbin confirmed that there is one open seat.

10. **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Member Masalski to adjourn the meeting. Member Kuna seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved by voice vote at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul L. Stephanides, Board Liaison and Recording Secretary