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*The City of New York
Borough of Queens*

Community Board 8

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

Liquor License Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Community Board 8 Office
197-15 Hillside Avenue
Hollis, NY 11423

Michael Hannibal, *Liquor License Committee Chair*

Board Members: James Gallagher Jr. and Marc A. Haken.

Also in attendance: Edwin Tubat - Owner – Philippine Famous, LLC
Izabela Szczepanska, Community Board 8 Staff

Liquor License Committee Chair Michael Hannibal called this meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. This was followed by self-introductions of all Board Members and staff.

Purpose:

This is to introduce the applicants to the Community Board to make them aware of the expectations of the Board for businesses with on-premise liquor licenses. This establishment is applying for a Wine, Beer, and Cider Liquor License for a restaurant with no outdoor area.

**I. Philippine Famous, LLC.
83-30 Parsons Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432**

Michael Hannibal – *Do you have a Certificate of Occupancy?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, I don't have one. The building has no C of O.

It does not have a C of O? I believe you will need one.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

What is the maximum occupancy for the building?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I have six tables. It would be around 20.

20 people all together?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

Sitting and standing?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Sitting.

I would imagine it's a small place.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – It is a small layout. It used to be a Chinese restaurant/takeout.

Since the maximum occupancy will be under 75 a Public Assembly Permit will not be required?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

What are the hours of operation?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – We are open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. We are closed on Tuesdays.

So Monday thru Sunday but Tuesdays you are closed?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

What are the hours again?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Where are you located as far as St. John's?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – We are close to Queens Hospital (*Parsons Boulevard and Grand Central Parkway*).

How do you plan to prevent underage drinking?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – If we suspect that the customer is underage; we have to require ID to show proof of age.

Do you have any training or your staff in terms of how to weed out underage drinkers?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes, I will tell them what is the proper age that you can serve wine or beer.

So there isn't any type of training per say?

No, not at this time. As soon as I have my license I will start training.

What security measures will be taken?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – We have Sensitivity (*security cameras*). Open 24 hours.

You have 24 hour security?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

You are open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and you have 24 hour security? Are we talking about physical security?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Inside the building.

Inside the establishment?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Inside, not the outside.

How will you maintain cleanliness of the establishment outside (i.e. smokers (ashtrays))?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I will put a no smoking and no throwing cigarette butts sign close to the entrance.

Do you plan on cleaning that every day?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – We clean twice a day, in the morning and afternoon.

Mr. Hannibal opened the floor for questions or concerns from the Board Members regarding the applicant. He announced that Marc A. Haken can go first.

Marc A. Haken – *I'm trying to catch where exactly this is. I know that area very well. You are on the north side. There is a hotel on the corner.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – The Motor Inn.

The Motor Inn and you're in the string of stores across from Parkway Village?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

You have six tables. Each table will sit how many people?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Four.

So then your maximum would be twenty-four.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – There are two small tables which will sit only two.

There are six four seaters which is twenty-four and then another four. Your maximum would be twenty-eight.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Four times four is sixteen and then the two small tables could only sit two.

I'm sorry the two small tables are part of the six. You have four four seaters and two two seaters.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Right.

So that is a total of twenty. Do you have a sit down bar?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, no space for that.

So there is no bar with stools or benches. This is an existing Chinese restaurant where you are planning to put in a Philippino restaurant.

Answer: [James Gallagher Jr.] – It's open.

[Mr. Tubat] – It's open.

Right but you can't serve liquor because you don't have the license.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

I have no more questions.

Mr. Hannibal asked if James Gallagher Jr. has any questions or concerns for the applicant.

James Gallagher Jr. – *Yes, how long have you been open?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – We opened August 8th, so about 6 months.

Now I saw one of your ads and it said bar. How could you have a bar when there is no bar and no seating area for bar.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Well I was thinking because of expenses I have to put the sign once. As soon as I have the beer license then I could start selling beer but not now.

Marc A. Haken - *I'm sorry that's not what he said. A bar separate from your tables where people could sit at a bar - if they choose just to drink and not order food. You are not going to have that?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, he was asking about the sign.

Well the sign indicates that there is a bar. You are selling liquor and have several stools by a bar.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – It is not existing right now.

Right and you're not going to put a bar in because you said you have no room.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, because there is no room.

Michael Hannibal – *So the question is that you are advertising a bar there isn't a bar. I think of a bar as a place to sit and drink but you do not have one.*

Marc A. Haken – And you won't attempt to have one?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, I think a bar is where you can serve beer and wine. So I put the bar in the sign.

Michael Hannibal – *So you are associating bar with alcohol?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

Okay and you don't have your liquor license yet?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No.

So basically, if someone shows up then you don't have any alcohol to give them right now.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – A lot of people are asking already but I said I can't.

Right but you don't have it yet. I would hate to be in your position because it sounds like you are advertising without the basis yet. So you have to deal with that.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I am dealing with it because a lot of people are asking for beer and wine. I said I can't serve you because I don't have the license yet.

There are two things that you said that I am concerned with. One, as I mentioned to you about underage drinking you said there isn't any training. You said that you are going to get training after you get the liquor license. As someone who has sat in this chair for a while no one has ever said that. They have always said that we are training so when we get the license we can move into it. You have to have training before you start getting the liquor license. You understand what I am saying?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

The other thing is I asked you about security and you said it was 24 hours. Do you mean 24 hours because the area you are in has security? I am talking about security for your establishment. You are not open 24 hours a day.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – The interior aspect of the restaurant only.

Okay the interior aspect of the restaurant has 24 hour security.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes, because it is on all the time.

I guess the thing I am missing is cameras.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes, the cameras.

I didn't equate it with cameras. I didn't hear cameras. What I was trying to understand is 24 hour security but you are open a limited amount of time. I was trying to understand if this is physical security. It is camera security.

James Gallagher Jr. – *How many cameras?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Two in the dining room.

Marc A. Haken – *You applied for a beer, wine, and cider license.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

No liquor?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I only need beer but my expeditor told me it is better to have both.

Yes, for beer, wine, and cider no hard liquor like scotch.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, no hard liquor.

Have you owned or operated a similar business before?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes, 15 years ago. You know the Grand Central Laundromat next to the hotel. It used to be a Philippine grill before and I managed that for three years. The first year we did not have a beer license. Once we did we developed a lot of revenue.

Yes, there was also a Philippine restaurant on Union Turnpike and Parsons Boulevard on the North West corner.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes, Manny's Bake Shop but I am talking about the big restaurant. Now it is the Grand Central Laundromat right now.

You said that the Philippine restaurant at the time did not have a beer or wine license. That did not have any liquor at all.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I started in 2000 and in 2001 we got the license.

When you were working at this other Pilipino restaurant they were serving beer or wine. But yet you have no knowledge as to what procedure should be followed in regard to beer, wine, or liquor do you?

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No.

There are places that give training to waiters or owners of restaurants. They train you and then you in turn could train your own staff. This is a formal training where you get a piece of paper and you can hang it in the window. I don't remember where.

Michael Hannibal – *Carolann Foley would help. We can get that information. That's a good point. Since you are in the district of the 107th Precinct they will also be able to guide you and give you information. There are classes that all of the liquor license applicants who require security and training have to go through.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Is that one of the requirements to get the license?

It is not a requirement. I would feel a lot more confident with you as an applicant if you had that training. Keep in mind the area that you are in I have passed the area and it can get busy and people can show up. I am not saying this is a dangerous area but it is still something that anyone that we are giving a liquor license to should have training and understanding on underage drinking. They should also be able to understand how to not serve it. What the requirements are and what the criteria is for it. It is a comfort level on our part.

Marc. A Haken – *It can only be to your advantage.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I have to find that information.

Michael Hannibal – *We are going to give you our information of the Police Department and the people you need to remain in contact with.*

James Gallagher Jr. – *Put their name and phone number in your cell phone contact list. We are going to give you their cell phone number and their email address.*

Michael Hannibal – *You contact them if you have any issues. They are the police officers for your area. You don't have a Certificate of Occupancy.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – I am working with the Department of Buildings to get a Letter of No Objection. Since the building does not have a C of O. I should get a Letter of No Objection.

Alright when you have that we would need to see that. That is why those are the first questions we ask you. You are looking for no objections from the Department of Buildings.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Right.

Marc A. Haken – *You said that there used to be a Chinese restaurant there?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – There used to be a Chinese restaurant

Marc A. Haken – *And they did not have a C of O?*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – No, because it was only a takeout restaurant.

It wasn't a restaurant it was a takeout. It was like a storefront.

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Yes.

Michael Hannibal – *So it would not need one. You are establishing seating as well as alcohol. That is something that we would need for us. I want to ask you to follow through with that and get that to us as soon as possible. I have not done this with others but I will put a time limit on it. We need to hear from you in two weeks. If we do not hear from you in two weeks whatever our vote is here will be nulled.*

Answer: [Mr. Tubat] – Okay.

Marc A. Haken made a motion to approve the application for a Beer, Wine, and Cider Liquor License for Philippine Famous, LLC, located at 83-30 Parsons Boulevard, seconded by James Gallagher Jr. pending the receipt of the C of O or Letter of No Objection [DOB LNO] by March 5, 2019.

Votes in favor: 3

Votes against: 0

Board Members who voted in favor: James Gallagher Jr., Michael Hannibal and Marc A. Haken.
Board Members who voted against: None.

The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Hannibal reiterated that the applicant should reach out to the 107th Precinct Community Affairs Unit. He provided contact information for NYPD 107th Precinct NCO and Community Affairs Officers for Quadrant C. He also added that the applicant should inform the Community Board of any concerns that arise. He announced that the 107th Precinct council meets once a month. He advised the applicant to go and introduce himself. He welcomed him aboard.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by,
Izabela Szczepanska, Community Board 8 Staff
February 25, 2019