

The City of New York Borough of Queens

Community Board 8

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Liquor License Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2015

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: Kevin Forrestal, Robert Harris and Martha Taylor

Also in attendance: Officer Peter Capozzi, 107th Precinct Community Affairs

Yahaira Soto, Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc.

Franklin Rodriguez, Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc. Franklin Rodriguez Jr., Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc.

Joseph Marziliano, Community Board 8 Staff

Committee Chair Michael Hannibal called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m.

Purpose:

This is to review the license renewal application for Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc. located at 172-37 Hillside Avenue, and make them aware of the expectations of the board for businesses with on-premise liquor licenses.

Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc. 172-37 Hillside Avenue, Jamaica NY 11432

This establishment is applying for the renewal of their license to serve liquor, wine and beer. The establishment is a tavern/cocktail lounge, and there was no licensed outdoor area requested.

We have seven core questions regarding the application that we will ask you, and then the discussion will be opened up to Community Board Members for questions in order to gain a better clarity. Once that is finished we will have a vote on your application.

Tell us about your establishment. What type of establishment will this be and why did you choose to have your business in this community?

Answer: It is a tavern/cocktail lounge.

Do you have a Certificate of Occupancy? What is the maximum occupancy of the location? Answer: We have a Certificate of Occupancy.

Were you able to submit a copy of the C of O to our Community Board office? Answer: No, we did not submit it, we were not aware of this requirement. We will email or fax it.

Does this establishment (over 75 people) have a Place of Assembly Permit?

Answer: We do not. Our occupancy is 74 persons.

What will be the hours of operation?

Answer: We will be open Mondays and Tuesdays from 6 p.m.- 4 a.m and Wednesdays through Sundays from 5:30 p.m- 4 a.m.

How do you intend to prevent underage drinking?

Answer: We have security in the front that asks for I.D. They are a credited company called 'PM Security'. There are two security guards at our bar.

What security measures will be taken? Are these guards are trained, and in the event that someone does not have I.D. do they turn these people away?

Answer: Yes.

How do you intend to maintain cleanliness in front of your establishment (i.e. smokers (ashtray))? Answer: No, smoking is not allowed. We clean up by sweeping up outside before opening every day.

Mr. Hannibal opened the meeting for questions from the Board Members.

Officer Capozzi- Mr. Hannibal spoke about security. So you do have security guards through a licensed security company. In the past your establishment was tested, where undercover police were sent in to test that you check I.D.'s not to serve minors. Last year your establishment failed that test. What have you done since then? Answer: Since then we have changed security guards. In front of the establishment you have gotten noise complaints, where people have come out of the bar making a lot of noise. What have you done in regards to this issue? Answer: We have implemented a 'No Loitering' policy, asking patrons to either come back inside or go away. They cannot hang out in front of the bar.

Kevin Forrestal- What prompted you to ask patrons not to loiter? Answer: It drew a lot of unwanted attention. Sometimes the Police would come and see a very large group of people in front of the store or fighting. We do not want that attention coming from our business. How would you describe your clientele, demographically? Answer: Sometimes we do get some older people and some younger, but generally we have customers in their late 20's and above. Before you started the No Loitering policy, did you have concerns with people urinating outside, being noisy and fighting? Do you think this was related to being served too much alcohol? Does going to the bus stop only move the problem further away? Answer: We felt it was dangerous to let people congregate in one area. When people have too much to drink we do cut them off.

<u>Martha Taylor-</u> How do you actually get people to move on when they are loitering? <u>Answer:</u> We use our Security Guards to ask them to move along. Most of our patrons respect this because we have many regulars who we maintain a relationship with.

<u>Committee Chair Michael Hannibal</u>- We do a lot of these applicant reviews and we want the business in the neighborhood. Our residents want to go out and they should be able to stay in the neighborhood. How long have you been in the restaurant business? <u>Answer</u>: Since 2008. You don't have a Certificate of Occupancy? <u>Answer</u>: We do have one and we will provide it to the Community Board.

<u>Franklin Rodriguez-</u> I go to all the meetings that the 107th Precinct has every month. I also have a contact phone number at the 107th Precinct with a number to call in case someone has a gun or there are problems in the bar. We work with the Police and they have been very good to us.

Martha Taylor made a motion to approve the application for the renewal of a Liquor License for 172-37 Hillside Avenue, Monte Limar Sports Bar, Inc. The motion was seconded by Kevin Forrestal.

Votes in favor: 4 Votes against: 0

Board Members who voted in favor: Kevin Forrestal, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, and Martha Taylor

Board Members who voted against: None

<u>Committee Chair Michael Hannibal</u>- Unlike anything else in the neighborhood, a place that dispenses alcohol has a very heavy task. They have to provide a place for customers to come and enjoy themselves, but they have to also work with the members of the community. Before we hear from our good friends at the 107th Precinct that you have a problem at your establishment, please call them and then call us. We want to foster trust and cooperation between the community and your establishment.

Mr. Hannibal noted that the application passed unanimously and wished the business success in the community.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Marziliano, Community Board 8 Staff April 15, 2015