

Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee
From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn
RE: Caleb's Corner, LLC., dba George's Encore, Caleb Robinson, Agent
Meeting date: Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Departments: Attorney, Health, Building, City Development
License(s) requested: Class "B" and "Class B" license (beer and liquor)

Topics Discussed

Agent/manager experience. Mr. Robinson has operated his other restaurant, Smok'd on the Water, for the past twelve years as the agent and owner. Accordingly, he is well versed with the local and state regulations concerning alcohol. Mr. Robinson's time will be split between the two businesses, although he will act as agent for both businesses.

Status of building/health permit and license. Mr. Robinson does not intend to undertake any major renovations, but for a small enlargement of the existing kitchen. He is working with both the health and building departments to obtain the appropriate permits and license. Due to the use of a meat smoker in the downtown design district, he will also need to obtain approval from the Planning, Heritage, and Design Commission. All that said, Mr. Robinson hopes to start operating by the end of February.

Amendment of premises description and hours of operation. Please note that the premises description has been modified to include only the first floor, basement storage and outdoor patio area to the east of the building. The hours of operation have been extended to allow flexibility and accommodate special events.

Police department issues. Sgt. Thillemann noted that there is no history of nuisance issues at this property and that Mr. Robinson has always been cooperative with officers in the past. He requested that Mr. Robinson continue to work with RPD and be open to closing early if needed to address any nuisance issues.

Overall summary

Mr. Robinson owns another successful business in the city and has always been cooperative with city staff in the past. Given the status of the building, however, it is recommended that the committee approve a "conditional grant of the license," which would require Mr. Robinson to start operating within six months of the date of the common council approval.