

Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee

From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn

RE: **The Void, Samantha Lopez (agent)**

Meeting date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020

PS&L agenda date: Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Departments attended: Attorney, Police, Building, Health, and City Development

License requested: Class "B" and "Class B" (full liquor license)

Topics Discussed:

- Brief review of responsibilities of an agent. While Ms. Lopez has experience in running and managing McCullough's on the Square for the past year, this is her first time acting as owner and agent for purposes of an alcohol beverages license. As such, she was given a brief overview of what it means to be an "agent," and advised to review (as well as provided a link to) the set of ordinances related to alcohol beverages regulations for the city.
- Conditional grant of the license. Ms. Lopez and her partner are doing some minor renovation work (painting, replacing wallpaper, etc.), but expects to start operating by the end of this month. Given its current renovation status, she is aware that the committee will issue a conditional grant of the license, which requires her to start operating under the license within six months of common council approval.
- Best practices from police perspective. Lt. Smith stressed the importance of having a working surveillance system in place and allowing police prompt access to any video images when requested. Lt. Smith emphasized that the bar should be calling the police whenever they need assistance and that doing so will not be held against them.
- Live music and addressing noise complaints. Because Ms. Lopez intends to bring in live music at least once a week, she was advised that she might encounter loud noise complaints. She should be cognizant of her neighbors when complaints do arise and take steps to address those complaints.
- Health and building department approvals pending. Ms. Lopez was told to contact the health department to fill out an application and schedule an inspection. She has already been in touch with the building department to obtain final approval.

Overall summary:

Ms. Lopez and her partner both have experience managing separate bars (McCullough's and Evelyn's) within the city. They intend to cater to the same crowd as McCullough's, while supporting local artists and musicians. Given McCullough's history of compliance, city staff does not anticipate any issues associated with this premises.