

Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee
From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn
RE: Select, LLC., dba/Select, Natasha Evans, Agent
Meeting date: Tuesday, November 21, 2023
Departments: Attorney, Building, Health and City Development
License(s) requested: Class "B" and "Class B" license (beer and liquor)

Topics Discussed

Agent/manager experience. Ms. Evans owns and operates Guardian Angels Homes, an adult group home in the city. She does not have any relevant experience in the alcohol or food industry. If approved for a license, she would take charge of the day-to-day operations on the premises, while continuing to operate the group home. Ms. Evans states she will also hire a manager to assist but does not have one at this time.

Status of building/renovations. Ms. Evans plans to remodel the premises, including the installation of new floors, an updated bathroom, an updated bar, and a brand-new kitchen. She has received quotes for all of the above but has yet to start any work or sign any contracts. Ms. Evans states she would like to obtain approval for an alcohol beverage license first, before spending any money on the remodel. Once the remodeling work starts, she hopes to operate within 60 to 90 days.

Health and building department issues. Ms. Evans has yet to apply for an occupancy permit with the building department, so it is unclear how long approval would take and what the capacity limit would be. Similarly, she has yet to apply for a restaurant license with the health department, so the timeframe for such licensure is unclear at this stage.

Amendment of premises description. After some discussion at the good neighbors meeting, Ms. Evans clarified that the premises should include the enclosed outdoor patio in the front of the building. An amendment has been attached to the license application packet.

Discrepancy relating to member(s) of Select, LLC. There seems to be some discrepancy relating to the company, as it is registered with the state. Attorney Arn has reached out to Ms. Evans for clarification but has not been able to speak with her. An update will be provided to the committee members at its November 27th meeting.

Police department issues. Sgt. Legath stated that there is a history of loitering and nuisance issues at this location and can provide the committee members with more specific information at the meeting, if necessary. Ms. Evans references having security staff on her license application but has yet to hire any individuals or company. In addition to the loitering issues,

Sgt. Legath is concerned about the lack of parking at this particular location. In the past, patrons at this establishment have used the parking lots of other businesses across the street without permission, which has caused problems for those businesses.

Overall summary

This proposed location has a history of nuisance issues, which might be particularly challenging for someone with no experience running a bar. At the time of the good neighbors meeting, Ms. Evans had yet to apply for an occupancy permit or restaurant license. Given its current renovation status, the committee should approve a “conditional grant of the license” if it is so inclined, which would require the applicant to start operating within six months of the date of the common council approval.