

Good Neighbors Report

UPDATED 12/17/24

To: Public Safety and Licensing Committee
From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn
RE: Pub 41 LLC., Pub 41 Banquet Hall, Arshdeep Singh, Agent
Meeting date: September 3 and December 17, 2024
Departments: Attorney, Health Building, City Development
License(s) requested: Class “B” (beer) and “Class B” (liquor) licenses

Issues Identified/Discussed:

Business plan. Based on the license application and conversation with the agent and owner, this place will operate as a bar, restaurant and banquet hall. The main kitchen will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. for lunch and dinner services. After 10:00 p.m., only “bar food” and snacks will be served, up until bar closing time. The banquet hall will be used for catering and larger events and will typically close no later than midnight.

UPDATE: Based on the income estimates provided by the applicant, Attorney Arn did inform the agent/owner that no underage persons may be on the premises without a legal guardian, except for minors in the banquet hall when no alcohol is being served in that room. As part of this discussion, Mr. Walia stated they intend to scan IDs at the time of entrance rather than starting at 10:00 p.m.

The hours of the business have been updated to close at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday nights, rather than 2:30 a.m., per the request of the applicant to comply with state and local regulations. At the time of the application, the old agent’s name had yet to be removed from several pages of the license application packet.

Agent/manager experience. Ms. Aragon currently serves as the agent and manager for a small bar and gas station in Milwaukee, also owned by Mr. and Mrs. Walia. Sarah has worked there for approximately six years and is familiar with alcohol licensing regulations. She will be primarily in charge of the premises and will be commuting from Milwaukee up to six days a week. Mrs. Walia is the only one listed as an owner under the company, but Mr. Walia has been involved in every aspect of the licensing procedure. As such, it was recommended that he place his name on the licensing application to identify himself as one of the owners of Pub 41, LLC. Mr. Walia appeared at the good neighbors meeting and indicated that his main involvement will be primarily from a landlord’s perspective, overseeing all of Elmwood Plaza.

UPDATE: Mr. Singh is the new agent and will be primarily responsible for the premises. He has worked for the other Pub 41 location in Oak Creek in the past, has also bartended for another bar/convenience store prior to that. In total, he has approximately 2-3 years of experience dealing with alcohol specifically. Although Mr. and Mrs. Walia are the owners, they will not be involved in the daily operations of the business.

Police Department issues: The RPD liaison was unable to attend the meeting but may provide more information to the committee during its meeting.

Status of building/health permit and license. This specific location has not been licensed as a restaurant since 2018 and will need to be updated to get it up to code. The owners are working with both the health and building department to make the necessary updates to obtain an occupancy permit and restaurant license. They hope to start operating within the next couple months.

UPDATE: Given the repairs/updates, they expect to start operating within 60-90 days.

Overall summary

The applicant intends to turn this space at Elmwood Plaza into a bar, restaurant and banquet hall. Despite the presence of the banquet hall, it will operate primarily as a bar between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. (2:30 a.m. on weekends). The space is certainly large enough and there is ample parking. The agent and owners were encouraged to take a proactive approach in dealing with any nuisance issues that may arise and to call the police department for assistance where needed.