

Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee
From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn
RE: The Main Project & Café, LLC., Deontrae Mayfield, Agent and Owner
Meeting date: Monday, January 21, 2023
Departments: Attorney, Police, Building, Health, and City Development

License(s) requested: Class "B" and "Class C" (beer and wine only)

Overall summary:

Mr. Mayfield currently operates a café out of the premises and wishes to add alcohol to the menu. Although his current café hours end at 9:00 p.m., he wishes to extend his hours on Friday and Saturday nights to accommodate special events. There is no history of nuisance issues surrounding the premises, but the change in hours of operation may change that.

Topics Discussed:

Eligibility for a "Class C" license. Mr. Mayfield is applying for a beer and wine license (rather than a full "Class B" intoxicating liquor license), and is eligible for the wine license so long as the business continues to operate primarily as a restaurant and café. Mr. Mayfield understands that he may only qualify for the "Class C" wine license so long as the proceeds from alcohol does not exceed 50% of gross sales, per state law.

Hours of operation amended. After learning that the hours of operation may not be extended unilaterally once approved, Mr. Mayfield requested that the closing hours on Friday and Saturday be extended to midnight to accommodate occasional special events. That said, if the committee approves the application, Mr. Mayfield may close at midnight every Friday and Saturday. If there are concerns, the committee may wish to add, as a condition of the license, that food be served whenever the premises is opened, to ensure that the premises continues to operate primarily as a restaurant and café during those late hours.

Agent/manager experience. Mr. Mayfield will be primarily in charge of the premises, with Ms. Cervantes as the co-owner of the coffee shop. Neither one has any experience in the alcohol industry, nor have they ever held an alcohol beverage license. Attorney Arn reviewed some city specific regulations with them and provided a link to the Department of Revenue publication for retailers.

Criminal background check. According to the policy guidelines, Mr. Mayfield is disqualified for an alcohol beverage license based on his two felony convictions for possession with intent to deliver cocaine from 1997 and 2006. The committee may, however, approve this license application if it finds both of the following: 1) Mr. Mayfield has provided sufficient evidence of

rehabilitation; and 2) Mr. Mayfield, as the agent, is of satisfactory character, record and reputation.

Other business on premises. Mr. Mayfield currently operates a side business on the premises selling renovated/refurbished furniture pieces. Additionally, he runs non-profit mentoring program called Project Restoration and occasionally uses the premises as a meeting space. State law prohibits any other business from being located or conducted on the same premises of a Class "B" license, unless specifically exempted by statute. Mr. Mayfield understands he may not operate any other business on the premises if he is issued an alcohol beverage license, and that doing so constitutes grounds for suspension and/or revocation of the license.

Police department. Sgt. Legath states there is no history of nuisance issues associated with the premises and encouraged the licensee to call the police department for assistance when needed.