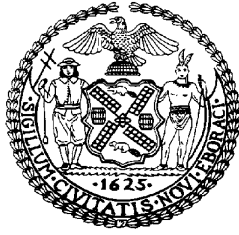


Borough President, Donovan Richards



Chairperson, Martha Taylor

The City of New York
Borough of Queens

Community Board 8

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

Cannabis License Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Community Board 8 Office
197-15 Hillside Avenue
Hollis, NY 11423

Michael Hannibal, Cannabis License Committee Chair

Committee Members Present: Marva Dudley, James Gallagher, Howard Fried, Michael Hannibal, Alan Ong, and Douglas Sherman.

Committee Members Absent: Edward Chung, Maria DeInnocentiis, Mary Maggio, Caitlin Marziliano, David Mordukhaev and Aliyah Salim

Also in attendance: Biaozhuo Chen, Sam Park, and Yolanda Gallagher

CB8 Staff: Soleil Griffin, Community Assistant

Cannabis/Liquor License Committee Chair Michael Hannibal called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. This was followed by self-introductions of all Board Members and staff.

Purpose:

The applicant, Cajun Seafood Hillside Inc. d/b/a Aloha Krab Cajun Seafood & Bar located at 204-13 Hillside Avenue in Hollis, is applying for a Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License and Temporary Retail Permit. Chairman Michael Hannibal asked the applicant to state their name for the record. Applicant Biaozhuo Chen and representative Sam Park.

Michael Hannibal

Is the restaurant a full restaurant with a bar?

Answer: [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes.

Michael Hannibal

Do you have a certificate of occupancy?

Answer: [Sam Park] – We will email you the certificate of occupancy.

Michael Hannibal

We would need the information on the Public Assembly Permit since the restaurant holds more than 75 people.

Answer: [Sam Park] – The maximum occupancy is 94 people. We will not have seating for 94 people. The maximum seating would be 64 people.

Michael Hannibal

Your restaurant will never reach the maximum for the Public Assembly?

Answer: [Sam Park] – No.

Michael Hannibal

What is your hours of operation?

Answer: [Biaozhuo Chen] – 7 days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Michael Hannibal

Will you be there onsite as the owner?

Answer: [Sam Park] – Yes. The owner will always be in the restaurant to oversee the people, and the kitchen.

Michael Hannibal

How will you check for ID to prevent underage drinking?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – We will check the ID to make sure they are over the age. We did not buy the machine to check the ID yet.

Michael Hannibal

Does your security have any type of State training or are you using the same security that is already established in the restaurant?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – We are not using a security guard since the area is safe. The previous owner did not have a security guard.

Michael Hannibal

What type of security measures are you putting in place to prevent unruly behavior or if someone drinks too much?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – I will not let them drink too much. If they do not feel good, we would stop them from drinking.

Answer: [Sam Park] – If the bartender cannot handle the customer, they will speak with the owner. The owner will then call the police.

Michael Hannibal

How do you intend to maintain cleanliness in front of the establishment, i.e. meaning smokers and people loitering?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] - Staff will sweep outside, four to five times, per day and we will not have ashtrays outside the establishment.

Michael Hannibal

Do you have any cameras?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes.

Michael Hannibal

How is it recording? Is it on a monthly basis?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes. We hold it for about a month.

Chairperson Hannibal opened the meeting for questions from the Board Members.

Alan Ong

Are the employees the same?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – No. The employees changed, but the restaurant will remain the same.

Alan Ong

I would like to suggest that your employees take the Alcohol Training Awareness Program (ATAP) training.

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Thank you.

James Gallagher

When did you open?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – October 31, 2024.

James Gallagher

Did you have another restaurant before that?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes. It was at a different location.

James Gallagher

I am concerned about the security, especially if you have a wild party.

Answer [Sam Park] – If you need us to have a security guard, we can hire one for the weekend. Friday and Saturday.

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – I think the community is very good.

Douglas Sherman

What was your background before you got involved in this type of business?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – I was a sushi chef for twenty years and I owned the business.

Douglas Sherman

Is this establishment primarily seafood?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes.

Douglas Sherman

Will you also be serving sushi?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – No. They will not allow us.

Douglas Sherman

Is there a particular day when the fish is delivered? Is it delivered every day?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Not every day. Whenever we ask for it, they deliver.

Douglas Sherman

How will you split your time between this restaurant and the other restaurant?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – We sold it. The restaurant in Levittown was sold in May.

Douglas Sherman

This would be your primary business?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes.

Soleil Griffin

Why did you switch ownership?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – It was a partnership, and no one was able to help her.

Soleil Griffin

Is there a possibility that she would come back and work for you?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – I wish. She helped us for two weeks then went back to China.

Soleil Griffin

Is this the first franchise that you have ever worked for?

Answer [Sam Park] – This business is individually owned. I know there are a lot of Aloha Krabs.

Michael Hannibal

This is not attached to a national chain?

Answer [Sam Park] – No.

Howard Fried

On the application, you have recorded music that you play at the restaurant?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Yes, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Howard Fried

Have you had any problems with people complaining?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – No problems.

Soleil Griffin

You stated that you have new employees, what happened to the other staff?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – I told them to stay; however, she had school and found a job that provided more hours.

Michael Hannibal

Are the waitstaff students that work part-time because of school?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – If they ask for part-time, we will work with them.

Howard Fried

How many people are employed at the restaurant?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – Six full-time and two part-time employees.

Howard Fried

Do you have any plans in the immediate future - in the next year or so, to change the format or expand the restaurant?

Answer [Biaozhuo Chen] – No. It is good, we are not going to change.

Michael Hannibal

Can I have a motion to accept the application for Cajun Seafood Hillside Inc. d/b/a Aloha Krab Cajun Seafood & Bar located at 204-13 Hillside Avenue in Hollis?

Motion made by Alan Ong and seconded by Howard Fried.

James Gallagher

Would it be as per the certificate of occupancy?

Answer [Michael Hannibal] – We have the old one. We have it on record that they have no plans to max it to the ninety percent. The seats are at seventy-five.

Chairperson Hannibal asked all those in favor to say aye.

Votes in favor: Unanimous

Committee Members who voted in favor: Marva Dudley, James Gallagher, Howard Fried, Michael Hannibal, Alan Ong, and Douglas Sherman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Soleil Griffin, Community Board 8 Staff

November 26, 2024