Cuisine en Locale, Inc

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Planning Board City of Cambridge Attn. Swaathi Joseph

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to a proposal to use the kitchen in the newly redeveloped St James Church building, at 1991 Mass Ave, in Cambridge, for occasional catering use by my 17 year old company, Cuisine en Locale.

It is my understanding that this building is part of a special planning board permit, #PB-241

It is also my understanding that my catering business, with no outward facing signage, is an allowed use per zoning so long as food is being picked up or taken to clients homes for events (per all health code requirements).

My catering company, Cuisine en Locale was founded in Cambridge as a personal cheffing business in 2005. Since then it has been a licensed caterer in several shared use facilities, both in Cambridge and Somerville, and I opened in my own catering kitchen in Somerville in 2015. Sadly, I lost my kitchen due to the pandemic and I have been closed since March of 2020.

I have opportunities to cater and cook privately for clients, and St. James Church very generously has offered me the use of their newly built space. The kitchen is entirely up to code, and has been approved by both ISD health and the Cambridge Fire Dept.

Our plan is for me to work as needed when the church is not holding services, which is on weekdays and Saturdays, between 10am and 10pm. In addition to myself, representing Cuisine en Locale, the church has also identified 2 kitchen managers who

will be overseeing the space and ensuring that it is being held to business use standards. The only day that the church has identified regular use is for their weekly Sunday tea.

We will be using a shared calendar to schedule use, as we need it. We do not anticipate ever using the kitchen more than 4 times a week, around the holidays, and I will guess it will be significantly less most times of the year.

I have asked my liaison to the church, Liz McNerney, to send along photos showing the kitchen and the space separating the church from the kitchen and I will forward them promptly.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration. I very much look forward to bringing my business back to Cambridge!

Sincerely yours,

JJ Gonson

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cc Liz McNerney to represent St. James Church

