



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

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NICOLE MURATI FERRER  
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BRANVILLE G. BARD, JR.  
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GERARD E. MAHONEY  
FIRE CHIEF | BOARD MEMBER

ELIZABETH Y. LINT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS' SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

*Meeting was held by remote participation via Zoom pursuant to Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 10, 2020, suspending certain provisions of M.G.L. ch. 30A.*

Meeting Started at approximately 9:05 a.m.

*Board Members in Attendance: Chair Nicole Murati Ferrer (present); Chief Gerard Mahoney (present); Commissioner Branville Bard (present).*

*Staff Member in Attendance: Elizabeth Lint.*

Unless otherwise stated, all decisions were 3-0, and by roll call vote.

1. Application #84823 Ketema Tadesse, for a Cambridge Hackney Driver's License.

**Present:** Ketema Tadesse, applicant, at second call.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Mr. Tadesse has been a cab driver in Boston. He is an excellent driver and gives good customer service, but the price is too high there. He wants to drive in Cambridge as the rates are better and cost of purchasing a medallion is lower. This will enable him to better support his family. His licenses in Boston and in Massachusetts have never been suspended.

**Decision:** Granted. Officer Szeto will follow-up.

2. Application #85782 Rush Hour Group, LLC, d/b/a Middlesex, 315 Massachusetts Avenue, has applied to transfer the Common Victualler All Alcoholic Beverages License currently held by MSEX, LLC d/b/a Middlesex, 315 Massachusetts Avenue. The proposed hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Sunday with proposed seating for 100 and an occupancy of 120. Chris Young as Proposed Manager of Record of a premise described as: Dining room, bar area, kitchen, and three restrooms. Main entrance on Mass Ave with rear egress onto State St. Basement has food prep area, dishwashing station, office, storage and 3 walk-in coolers. 180 square foot seasonal outdoor patio on the public sidewalk. Applicant is also applying for an Entertainment License to include music above conversation level; dancing by patrons; live music with amplification; DJ; comedy show; karaoke; and 5 TV's.

**Present:** Chris Young and Dennis Lopes.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This will be basically a turn- key operation with concept and hours remaining the same. The application says there is an alteration of premise to allow service outside, but this is already allowed, and the patio is part of the premise description (although there is some confusion as to whether this was in the ABCC record so it is being added as an alteration just in case). The description will be seasonal seating on the public way. Mr. Young, proposed manager, has extensive experience in the restaurant business. He is TIPS certified.

**Decision:** Granted.

3. Application #83426 Sweetcream Foods, Inc. d/b/a Café Luna, 612 Main Street, Common Victualler Wine and Malt with Cordials/Liqueurs, has applied for a Change of License Category to All Alcoholic Beverages.

**Present:** Matt Haymer, applicant.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Mr. Haymer explained that in addition to the need for his business during this uncertain time, customers ask for the addition of other drinks. Café Luna has been in business for over 15 years, serving alcohol for about 12 years, with no disciplinary issues. They have become a breakfast/brunch destination and guests are asking for beverages other than mimosas with their meals.

**Decision:** Granted.

4. Application #76811 Cambridge Cuisine, LLC d/b/a Puritan & Company, 1166 Cambridge Street, Common Victualler All Alcoholic Beverages License, has applied for an Alteration of Licensed Premise to add 900 square feet of additional retail space. The proposed premise description is: Approximately 4,400 square feet restaurant. Seating in the front of the restaurant and kitchen in the rear. Emergency exit and restrooms in the rear. Storage space.

**Present:** Will Gilson, owner.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This space is leased by the licensee but used for storage and is not part of the licensed premises. It will be used for picking up orders which have greatly increased due to COVID-19. This way, patrons do not have to enter the restaurant.

**Decision:** Granted.

5. Application #86498 Green Cab Co. d/b/a Green and Yellow Cab has applied for a Hackney Dispatch Service.

**Present:** Cheryl Horan and Karen Lima.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** The company has been in business in Somerville for over 40 years and have serviced the surrounding communities. They have GPS technology and use an app as well as taking phone reservations. There is a call out feature for arrival, notifications can be sent out, and they use a tom tom tablet. Their system works much like a meter and is based on distance. They will accept our flat rates to the airport from hotels.

**Decision:** Granted with the condition that the fares are calculated at our rates. Officer Szeto will follow up.

6. Application #88157 Wachusett Brewing Company, Inc., 33 Dunster Street, has applied for a \$19 Wine and Malt Manufacturer's Pouring Permit and Common Victualler License. The proposed hours of operation are 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday with proposed seating for 220, and occupancy of 327. Edward LaFortune III as Proposed Manager of Record of a premise described as: The Pouring Permit Area consists of brewery, bar, main dining area, private dining room, coolers, kitchen, restrooms and office approximately 11,010 total square feet. The building is bounded to the north by a service alley described in the lease as a "passageway." The 500 square foot brewery is in the south east corner of the basement room. There is one door into the brewery and one door from the brewery into the walk-in cooler. The dining area is separated from the brewery by doors that have locks only accessible by employees. The "Brew Yard" area is approximately 10,510 square feet and comprised of the following: bar, main dining area, private dining room, coolers, storage, kitchen, restroom and office. The Brew Yard has a primary entrance and exit door in the center of the east wall. The Brew Yard also has 3 emergency exit doors. One door exits to the north passageway, and two to the west. The brewery and Brew Yard have no windows to the outside. Applicant is also applying for an Entertainment License to include: 11'x7' stage for live music performances, corn hole, shuffleboard, ping pong, nine TV's, dancing by patrons, and one pool table.

**Present:** Kim Slayton and Edward LaFortune.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This is the space previously licensed by John Harvard's Brew House which was a manufacturer brewery. Their main location is in Westminster where they have a pouring permit. They do not plan to operate as a bar, but rather as a restaurant. Mr. LaFortune explained that he will be the manager of record as it is required by the ownership team. However, Ashley Maguire will be at the establishment most of the time. She had previously worked for John Harvard's and has a substantial amount of experience in the industry.

**Decision:** Granted.

7. Application #89941 Nem Kitchen, LLC d/b/a Cicada Coffee Bar, 106 Prospect Street, has applied for a new Common Victualler License with proposed hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. all days with seating for 17 inside, and inside occupancy of 20, 5 outdoor seats on private property, and an occupancy of 8 on the patio. Michael Fang as proposed Manager of Record of a premise described as: Approximately 640 square feet of ground level space in a 1-story standalone building. Premises comprised of 3 main areas: service/prep area, dining area, and 1 bathroom. There is a basement for storage. There are 2 entrances/exits: front at street level, and back connecting to the yard.

**Present:** Duong Huynh, Michael Fang, and Vihn Le, for Cicada Coffee. Various members of the public.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This will be a Vietnamese restaurant with a focus on clean, healthy food which is plant and seafood based. They will be composting their food waste. The back patio will be a Zen Garden with only 5 seats. The patio will close at 8:00 p.m. They will only have 17 seats. Abutters voiced concern about noise as they have a B&B right next door. Applicants stated that they are committed to controlling noise and will always be available if there are issues. Liz Walker, Michael Monestime, Andrew Wade and Alykhan Mohamed spoke in favor of the petition stating that it will be a unique and positive addition. Eric Huenneke and Laurie Fearing expressed their concerns about noise from the Zen garden.

**Decision:** Granted as applied for.

#### **Administrative Matters**

*All the below listed matters are considered and voted upon by the Board without public testimony. Unless otherwise indicated, all the matters are decided upon by the individual review of the papers/applications before the Board members and each member votes upon the matter. The summary of what is considered by the Board, unless otherwise indicated, is the identifying information of the matter as listed on the agenda.*

8. Application #88213 261 SRC, LLC d/b/a Source, holder of common victualler all alcohol License #63767, not yet issued, has applied to add 2 TV's to their license.

**Decision:** Granted.

**Continued from August 24, 2020:**

10. Application #73128 Stoked Pizza Cambridge, LLC d/b/a Stoked Pizza Co., 1611 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #52551 (not yet issued), for a Change of Closing Hour from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. all days.

**Summary:** This matter was continued from the last agenda to give the Board time to consider the hours. The Board considered the testimony previously provided on the application, Commissioner

Mahoney's proposal (extend to midnight with a six-month review from the time the license issues), the applicant's assent to Commissioner Mahoney's proposal and the applicant's impeccable record in Brookline.

**Decision:** Granted midnight closing hour with a review 6 months after opening, and provided no issues, may extend to 1:00 a.m. (2-0, Commissioner Bard did not vote as he was not present at the August 24, 2020 meeting).

11. Ratifications of approvals of Temporary Extensions of Licensed Premises to Outdoor Area Due to COVID-19, pursuant to Boards' vote of June 8, 2020: See attached list.

**Summary:** Various of the applications listed are not ripe for ratification, in addition some of the records are missing crucial information. As such, the ratifications were not considered and will be placed on the next agenda.

**Decision:** No Vote.

12. Minutes from June 29, 2020 and August 24, 2020.

**Decision:** Approved as to both.

13. Discussion of Governor Baker's Executive order of September 10, 2020.

**Summary:** This is order # 50 which provides for the local licensing authority to automatically extend the temporary extensions of licensed premises to outdoor areas up to 60 days after the state of emergency ends. The proposal would be for those on the private way to submit a letter from the landlord allowing the use until then. For those on the public way, to enter into an addendum with the City Manager. Any new applications would have the new expiration date. Allowing the extensions to proceed after November 1, 2020 and all the way through the end of the state of emergency would be in the best interest of the public's health.

**Decision:** Automatically extend all temporary extensions of licensed premises to outdoor areas for up to 60 days after the state of emergency declaration is lifted by the Governor of Massachusetts.

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Date Minutes Approved:

**OCT 28 2020**

Date Minutes Posted:

**OCT 28 2020**