

CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION 831 MASSACHUSETTS AVE, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

NICOLE MURATI FERRER CHAIRPERSON | BOARD MEMBER

CHRISTINE A. ELOW POLICE COMMISSIONER | BOARD MEMBER

GERARD E. MAHONEY FIRE CHIEF | BOARD MEMBER

Monday, May 9, 2022, 10:00 a.m. By Remote Participation

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, signed into law on June 16, 2021. Meeting started at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Board Members (all present): Nicole Murati Ferrer, Gerard E. Mahoney, and Christine A. Elow.

Staff Member Present: Chris O'Neil, Administrative Assistant.

Decisions: All votes were by roll call vote, 3-0, unless otherwise stated.

Public Testimony Matters

1. **Application #167043** Almeida Cafe, Inc. d/b/a Casa Portugal, 1200 Cambridge Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11357, has applied for an Alteration of Premises to include an outdoor seasonal patio on the public way. The proposed premises description is: 1,156 sq. ft. dining room and kitchen on street floor with cellar for storage. Includes outdoor seasonal patio on the public way in the parking lane, of approximately 320 sq. ft.

Present: Manuela Almeida.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is meant to mirror Temporary Extension issued due to COVID-19 #112586. The SSBU has issued. The proposed seating capacity is 16. The hours of operation for outside meant to mirror the ones for inside.

Decision: Granted.

2. **Application #151933** JKFoodGroup, LLC d/b/a Little Donkey, 505 Massachusetts Avenue, Common Victualler All Alcohol License #11546, has applied for an Alteration of Premises to extend its licensed premises to the public way, sidewalk curbside and into the parking lane. The proposed premises description is: On two floors. First floor indoor restaurant, including dining area (+/- 673 sq. ft.), bar area (+/- 468 sq. ft.), and a bar dining area (+/- 384 sq. ft.). Kitchen (+/-1,045 sq. ft.) and storage in rear. Basement (+/-583 sq. ft.) for offices and storage. Main entrance/exit located on Mass Ave with additional exit in rear on Bishop Allen Drive. Includes outdoor patio area located on private property (+/-667 sq. ft.), and an outdoor seasonal patio on the sidewalk curbside and into the parking lane of approximately 1,260 sq. ft.

Present: Jamie Bissonnette.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

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Summary: This is meant to mirror Temporary Extension issued due to COVID-19 #80937 but with a little more capacity. The SSBU has issued. The proposed seating capacity is 66. Closing hour of patio will be 11:00 p.m.

Decision: Granted with the condition that while the outdoor area is open and operating, there must be managerial staff monitoring it.

[Matter added to the agenda after posting.]

3. **Deferred from May 2, 2022 Application # 169872** Overlind Industries LLC d/b/a The Red House, 98 Winthrop Street, Common Victualler All Alcohol License (#111650) has applied for a malt and wine license to be exercised at 98 Winthrop Street in front of current restaurant, on 5/7, 5/8, 5/25, 5/26, 5/27, 5/28, 5/29, 5/30, 9/2, 9/3, 9/4, 9/5, 10/7, 10/8, 10/9, 10/10, 10/20, 10/21, 10/22 & 10/23 from 11:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. for garden seating. Expected attendance – 50 people.

Summary: Per the discussion on the matter of May 2, 2022, the Chair spoke to Lt. Towski for clarification in terms of what is required of the applicant in terms of clearing the way for an emergency vehicle. For the fire truck to be able to get through, they need 20-foot clearance (it used to be 18 under the code, now it is 20). The proposed set up would need to be broken down almost completely and any persons removed in an emergency. The plan has a total of 15 tables (10 of those are 2 person tables, and 5 are 4 person tables). The capacity in the area has increased. Although during the last two years particularly due to COVID 19 we have approved such licenses, at this time the situation is different and this location has outdoor dining options not related to this request. For this particular business we approved a similar request and had issues with the set up a few times. The Board considered the need to have clearance for emergency vehicles, the proposal only has a 10 foot pedestrian way clearance and to make it a 20 foot clearance in a matter of seconds would be next to impossible. The license may serve a business need but not a public one.

Decision: Denied due to various considerations including safety and the need to keep the way clear for emergency vehicles.

By the Board of License Commissioners

Minutes Approved: May 16, 2022

Minutes Posted: May 16, 2022

Nicole Murati Ferrer, Chair

Christine Elow, Police Commissioner