

City of Northville
Liquor License Review Committee
May 15, 2017

Call to Order

A meeting of the Liquor License Review Committee was called to order at 6:30 pm at the City of Northville Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167.

It was noted that Mayor Pro Tem James Allen, Councilmember Marilyn Price, and Member John Buckland were present.

Also present were City Clerk Dianne Massa, Police Chief Michael Carlson, City Manager Patrick Sullivan, and representatives from Lucy & the Wolf and Browndog Creamery. No citizens were present.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Agenda

Motion Price, seconded by Buckland to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes

Motion Buckland, seconded by Price to approve the September 19, 2016, and December 19, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Request to Add Outdoor Service Permit / Browndog North - Browndog Creamery

In December 2016, Browndog North, LLC, D/B/A Browndog Creamery, 120 E. Main Street, was approved by City Council to transfer a Class C Liquor License with Sunday Sales (PM) permit into the City and add a Specially Designated Merchant (SDM) and Sunday Sales AM permit. The owners of Browndog North, Brian Scherle and Paul Gabriel are now requesting to add an Outdoor Service Permit to their liquor license.

Browndog North submitted an updated Plan of Operation with their Liquor License Review Committee application. The Plan of Operation indicates the business will continue to be operated as it has been since obtaining their Class C license. However, the addition of outdoor

service will allow the applicants to serve their products to customers seated within their outdoor service area if approved.

Currently, Browndog North has received approval of an outdoor service platform directly in front of their business and partially in front of 118 E. Main Street. The platform accommodates seating for 17 patrons. The new Plan of Operation indicates outdoor service will operate in accordance with and consistent with all City policies, practices, ordinances and procedures regulating outdoor service. The time of alcohol service to the outdoor service will be as follows:

Monday - Thursday: 12pm to 11pm
Friday and Saturday: 11am to 12am
Sunday: 12pm to 10am with sales and service ending at 9:30pm

The applicants have experience at their two existing Class C businesses, Browndog Creamery in Northville and Browndog in Farmington City. A check has been conducted and there have been no negative contacts with the applicants or their business. There are no Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) violations at either establishment.

All fees and costs have been paid by the applicants. Staff can find no reason to object to the approval of this request subject to final inspections and code compliance.

Public hearing opened at 6:33 pm. No comments. Public hearing closed at 6:33 pm.

LLRC Questions, Comments, and Discussion: It was noted that due to the change in state law regarding Sunday AM sales, City staff will propose an amendment to the Sidewalk Café alcoholic beverage service hours to allow earlier service on Sundays.

Motion Price, seconded by Buckland to recommend that City Council take no action to object to the updated Plan of Operation nor to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission approving the request by Browndog, North, LLC to add Outdoor Service to their Class C license. In addition, the Sunday sales hours in the Plan of Operation are amended to 10am to 10pm, effective when the Sidewalk Café ordinance is amended. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Request to Add Outdoor Service Permit / BSIDE Ventures - Lucy & the Wolf

In March 2015, applicant Mishelle Lussier, owner of BSIDE Ventures, LLC, D/B/A Lucy & the Wolf, located at 102 E. Main Street, was approved by City Council to transfer a Class C and SDM Liquor License with Sunday Sales and Entertainment permits into the City. The applicant is now requesting to add an Outdoor Service Permit.

The applicant submitted an updated Plan of Operation with the Liquor License Review Committee application. The Plan of Operation indicates the business will continue to be operated as it has since opening in 2015. However, the addition of outdoor service will allow the business to serve alcohol to customers seated within an outdoor service area. The alcohol to food ratio has also changed from 75% food and 25% alcohol to 70% food and 30% alcohol.

Currently, the applicant is in the review process to get approval for outdoor seating on the public sidewalk in front of their business (102 E. Main St.), 104 E. Main St., 106 E. Main St., and partially in front of 108 E. Main St. If approved, the fenced in seating area will accommodate seating for up to 16 patrons.

The service times are as follows:

Inside Seating:

Tuesday - Thursday: 11am to 11pm

Friday and Saturday: 11am to 12am

Sunday: Closed

Outdoor Seating:

Tuesday - Thursday: 11am to 11pm

Friday and Saturday: 11am to 11pm

Sunday: Closed

The applicant has experience at this business as well as Table 5 for several years. A check of the business and applicant history has been conducted. Since 2015, the applicants have received MLCC violations as follows:

- 2015 Lucy & the Wolf: failure to provide proof of a successful completion of an alcohol server training program within 180 days of the issuance of the liquor license. A \$100 fine was paid and a suspension was avoided.
- 2016 Table 5 (the applicant's other restaurant): failure to provide proof of financial responsibility (insurance). A \$100 fine was paid and a suspension was avoided.
- 2016 Lucy & the Wolf: non-sufficient funds (NSF) check. A \$50 fine was paid and a license suspension was avoided.
- 2017 Lucy & the Wolf: warning from the MLCC for failing to provide proof of financial responsibility (insurance).

All fees and costs have been paid by the applicant. Staff can find no reason to object to the approval of this request subject to final inspections and code compliance.

Public hearing opened at 6:37pm. No comment. Public hearing closed at 6:37 pm.

LLRC Questions, Comments, and Discussion: In response to a question from the LLRC, it was explained that the due to site distance issues, the number of tables and seats was reduced. The applicant also noted that they will not be open on Sundays except for special events such as a baby shower or bridal shower. They do not plan to have outdoor service on Sundays and would not be affected by the proposed changes to the Sunday Sales in the Sidewalk Café ordinance.

Motion Buckland, seconded by Price to recommend that City Council take no action to object to the updated Plan of Operation nor to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission approving the request by BSIDE Ventures, LLC to add Outdoor Service Permit to their Class C license.

Motion carried unanimously.

Buckland noted that he has heard complaints from downtown residents pertaining to the noise generated by the increase in outdoor seating.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Massa
City Clerk

Approved as submitted: 6/19/17