

TROY LIQUOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, November 13, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairman Max Ehlert in Conference Room C.

PRESENT:

Max Ehlert
W. Stan Godlewski
James Moseley
Thomas Sawyer
Jennifer Gilbert, Student Representative
Sergeant George Zielinski
Marsha Livingston, Office Coordinator

ABSENT:

David Balagna
James Peard
John Walker

Moved by Moseley, seconded by Sawyer to EXCUSE the absent member(s).

APPROVED unanimously

Moved by Sawyer, seconded by Godlewski to APPROVE the minutes of the October 9, 2000 meeting as printed.

APPROVED unanimously

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **BORMAN'S INC. (A Delaware Corporation)** requests to transfer ownership of 2000 Specially Designated Distributor license only, in escrow, from **Patient Prescription Center, Inc.**, and transfer location from 1304 Livernois, Troy Michigan, 48083, Oakland County, to 3125 John R, Troy Michigan, 48083, Oakland County, to be held in conjunction with existing 2000 Specially Designated Merchant license with Direct Connection (1) permit. [MCL REF#87294]

Present to answer questions from the committee were Albert Lord.

This is a basic transfer from one location to another. The Liquor Control Commission, the City Attorney's office, and the Troy Police Department have been notified about the transfer. Borman's has 26 SDD licenses throughout Michigan. This transfer will not be completed through the Liquor Control Commission until Patient Prescription Center, Inc. takes care of an administrative violation they have, which will entail paying a fine.

The schematic hasn't been decided yet. They are aware that no one under 18 can have access to the liquor with the location possibly be located in the customer service area. It is a city ordinance that the display is located behind a counter. The store will be open 24 hours.

Mr. Lord provided the members with the equipment plan of the store. He informed the members that there is an in-house training for the sales of liquor, which the cashiers and managers go through. A person in violation will go through the training again but because of the union, there is a grievance procedure that must be followed. The registers required a birth date be entered in order to complete the sale.

Moseley announced to the members that he does a lot of business with Farmer Jack and will abstain from voting if the members wished. The members unanimously agreed that he could vote on the above item, as he has nothing to do with their liquor sales.

Moved by Sawyer, seconded by Godlewski, to APPROVE the above request based on Borman's providing Council with the schematic.

APPROVED unanimously

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2. **LaSHISH, INC.** requests to transfer ownership of 2000 Class C licensed business, located in escrow at 3720 Rochester, Troy, MI 48083, Oakland County, from **JACQUES' FOOD & SPIRITS, INC.** [MLCC REF #91831]

Present to answer questions from the committee were Mustafa Dakroub.

LaShish is a restaurant that serves Middle Eastern cuisine. The manager will be brought in from another of their restaurants and has been with them for 10 years. This person ran their largest restaurant, which is located in Dearborn and does have liquor. There will be no employees from the previous establishment.

Everyone is put through training, even the busboys. Part of the training is when to stop serving liquor. Mr. Dakroub provided the members with a copy of the operations manual.

Mr. Dakroub also provided the members with the layout of the restaurant. The building is 5 to 6 years old and has shared parking. The seating capacity is 124. There have been no changes to the building. The bar is located in the lobby of the restaurant, which is quite a distance from the door. The hostess is situated in the center of the lobby area and there are planters around the bar area. The restaurant does provide carry out, but this area is separated from the restaurant.

Their main business is food with liquor sales being only a small percent of their business. LaShish, Inc. has eight restaurants, and they have been voted #1 in the nation for being the best chain by Gourmet magazine.

Sgt. Zielinski informed the members there were a couple of minor building violations found. Storage that needed to be moved, lights that needed to be replaced, etc., all minor.

Jacques' is in the computer business, and is now out of the restaurant business because he didn't have enough time to run it. Mr. Dakroub stated that LaShish, Inc. does have the time and experience to make this restaurant a success.

Moved by Moseley, seconded by Sawyer, to APPROVE the above request.

APPROVED unanimously

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3. **SOMERSET COLLECTION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP** requests to transfer ownership of 1999 Class C licensed business with Sunday Sales Permit, Official Permit (Food), & Dance Permit, located at 2850 Coolidge, Troy, MI 48084, Oakland County, from **HOULIHAN'S RESTAURANTS, INC.** (A Delaware Corporation) (Step I) [MLCC REF#88996] and then **McCORMICK & SCHMICK OPERATING CORP. (A GEORGIA CORPORATION)** requests to transfer ownership of 1999 Class C licensed business with Dance Permit and Official Permit (Food), located in escrow at 2850 Coolidge, Troy, MI 48084, Oakland County, from **SOMERSET COLLECTION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**; and requests to add space (Step II) [MLCC REF #89158]

Present to answer questions from the committee were Lee Hunrath, a representative from Somerset Collection, and Scott, an attorney representing McCormick & Schmick.

The license is being transferred from Houlihan's to Somerset and from Somerset to McCormick & Schmick and is for records purposes only. McCormick & Schmick will be running the restaurant, which will be an upscale seafood restaurant. The reason Somerset is involved is because they have an interest in the property. They get the value of the license for security.

This will be the first McCormick & Schmick in Michigan. They are a restaurant chain and have restaurants in California, Washington DC, Illinois, Maryland, and Nevada. Scott provided the layout of the building and photos, so the members could see how the interior will look. They are putting \$2.5 million into the renovations and the opening date is intended for February 1, 2001. Scott provided the members with a copy of their 1998 Annual Report. The location of the bar will be moved and the seating capacity is 229.

McCormick & Schmick does have alcohol-training programs. Scott informed the members that Scott Forbes has been contacted to conduct the TIPS program and there is internal training, although he did not know specifically what the internal training was or what it entailed. There will be no holdover from Houlihan's. There will be a management training team that will come in initially to train new managers. Scott said one of the managers from the management training team stays around for about one year.

The hours of operation are undecided at this point. They will probably stay open until around 11:00 p.m. during the week and stay open later on Friday and Saturday nights. They have asked for a special permit to serve food from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Sundays. Lee Hunrath read the hours of operation as stated on the lease, which included 7 days a week for lunch and dinner and not to be open on holidays because Somerset is closed on holidays.

Moved by Sawyer, seconded by Moseley, to TABLE the above request until a representative from McCormick & Schmick could be present to answer questions.

APPROVED unanimously

Steve Schwagle, a representative from Patient Prescription Center, Inc., attended the meeting in order to address the board about their violation. He stated they will do everything in their power to quickly resolve this matter with the Liquor Control Committee.

Moved by Moseley, seconded by Sawyer to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED unanimously

ML/ml