

TROY LIQUOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, December 18, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Max Ehlert in Conference Room C.

PRESENT:

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

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

APPROVED unanimously

Moved by Walker, seconded by Peard to APPROVE the minutes of the November 13, 2000 meeting as printed.

APPROVED unanimously

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **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 John Carlin appearing on behalf of McCormick & Schmick, General Manager Sharon Bartlett, Executive Chef Mark Kelly, and Lee Hunrath from Somerset Collection.

Mr. Carlin explained that McCormick & Schmick was taking over the old Houlihan's restaurant, and he felt it would be a benefit to the community. McCormick & Schmick is known for seafood. He presented a floor plan and photos of other McCormick &

Schmick restaurants, so the members could see what the restaurant would look like. He also passed around the lunch and dinner menu. They are looking at an opening date of February 19, 2001.

Sharon Bartlett has been in the restaurant business for 18 years and has never had a violation. She explained the restaurant will coordinate TIPS training through Scott Forbes and would also like to have both Sgt. Zielinski and Mr. Carlin over to talk to the management staff. They will also contact Jody House regarding their "Safety is Key" program.

McCormick & Schmick restaurants have been open since 1972 and in that time they have never had a liquor violation in any of their 32 restaurants. They don't want Troy to be the first. Sharon also explained that there is an extensive training process, which is several weeks long. Employees are given a manual and there is a test given to all servers. 20 questions of the test are related to alcohol awareness.

They also intend to bring in a training staff from other locations that will be here before and through the opening. Each member of the training staff has been with the company for at least 15 years.

McCormick & Schmick will serve lunch and dinner weekly. The closing hours are undecided at this time but there will be a trial period to see what's is going to be good. The restaurant will be open later than Somerset.

If there is any entertainment it will be for special occasions only. McCormick & Schmick currently has piano players in two of the restaurants.

The staff turnover rate is very low. They have a lot of career servers and bartenders.

Moved by Ehlert, seconded by Moseley, to APPROVE the first step of the above request.
APPROVED unanimously

Moved by Walker, seconded by Moseley, to APPROVE the second step of the above request.
APPROVED unanimously

-
2. **NORDSTROM, INC.** requests to drop space in 2000 12 Months Resort Class C licensed business, located at 2850 W. Big Beaver, Somerset North Mall, Troy, MI 48084, Oakland County. [MLCC REF #87791]

Present to answer questions from the committee were General Manager Richard Ladd and Chef Tony Colabolli.

Nordstroms is discontinuing pub operations in stores across the country. The Men's division has been steadily expanding and space is needed. Since business is not as profitable in the pub as they would have liked, they decided to stop this part of their operation. Having to close at 9:00 p.m. didn't help business. They will be continuing food service in the café, which includes selling beer and wine.

Since they are just closing the pub down, Nordstroms retains the license for the café space, which closes at 7:00 p.m. They have had no violations since they opened.

Mr. Ladd informed the committee that he personally saw to the disposal of the liquor. He talked to their corporate lawyers and the State of Michigan and decided the safest route to take was to discard it.

Moved by Sawyer, seconded by Walker, to APPROVE the above request.
APPROVED unanimously

-
3. **CARROLL INVESTMENTS, INC.,** (Mario's) requests a new additional Bar Permit and new Outdoor Service Permit to be held in conjunction with 2000 licensed business with Dance Permit, located at 1477 John R, Troy, MI 48083, Oakland County. [MLCC REF #93676]

Present to answer questions from the committee was Vince Passalacqua.

Mario's is looking to add an outside patio service. This will be a 45-foot area stretched out the width of the front of the building facing John R. They are intending to get a lease for additional parking spaces. Four walls will be built and pine trees will be planted for noise reduction. The area is currently lawn. The addition of the patio will leave 47 feet from the building to the curb. Floor plans were shown to the members. Mr. Passalacqua mentioned a waterfall would also be built to make it a relaxing atmosphere. The only other things that would be done to improve the outside of the building are adding statues, pillars, and flowers. The main entrance on the north side of the building will not change.

There will be a building built that houses a bar with 10 to 15 seats and handicap accessible restrooms. They are hoping to break ground in April and open in May. Mr. Passalacqua said they may try a different menu with lighter fare for the summer, since Italian food is heavy. They are also looking into a hiring a quartet for the patio that would play Chopin, for example, and maybe a DSO night for entertainment. Their neighbors are light industrial, so there wouldn't be a problem there.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday dance nights are going well and have extended their dinner hours. Clientele is 30 and older.

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

4. **NINO SALVAGGIO FRUIT & VEGETABLE MARKET OF TROY, INC.,** requests a new Specially Designated Distributor license located at 6835 Rochester, Troy, MI 48098, Oakland County, to be held in conjunction with existing 2000 Specially Designated Merchant license with On-Premise Seating. [MLCC REF #91519]

Present to answer questions from the committee was Kirk Taylor, the Director of Operations.

Nino Salvaggio’s would like to add packaged liquor. The liquor would be placed behind the coffee bar. Three years ago they had one violation for selling to a minor. Since that time they have gotten more serious about training. The store got involved with TAM, who comes to their building four times a year to provide training, with which attendance is mandatory. Their employee manual has been updated and includes an extensive section on alcohol training. They also have met with the cashiers to reiterate.

The coffee bar will be changed to accommodate the liquor by removing the seating by the register and putting up shelves. At this time, the customer will order the liquor at the coffee bar and an employee will bring it to the cash register where the customer will show their ID and pay for their purchases. If sales become high, then the liquor will be sold right at the coffee bar.

Moved by Moseley, seconded by Sawyer, to TABLE the above request until the schematics is completed and can be viewed along with the employee manual.

APPROVED unanimously

Moved by Moseley, seconded by Peard to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

APPROVED unanimously

ML/ml