

Minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting of the City of Chelsea Licensing Commission.

Location: City Chambers, City Hall. Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Emily Cherniack.

Commission members present: Emily Cherniack, Marnie MacAlpine, Mike McAteer, Alexandria Christmas. Absent Gladys Vega.

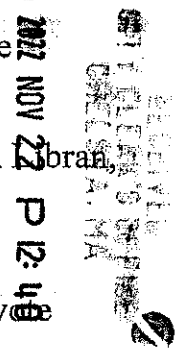
Also, Present in Council Chamber Room: Licensing Administrator Naomi Libran and Chief Keith Houghton, Captain David Betz, Councilor Robinson.

Commissioner Cherniack asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2022, McAteer motioned to adopt, Christmas seconded and vote unanimous.

Clerks update:

Licensing Administrator Libran asked the Licensing Commission for the approval of the three (3) Marijuana License renewals that was supposed to be approved in the September meeting. McAteer motioned to approve, Christmas seconded and vote unanimous.

Commissioner Cherniack opened the Public Hearing to consider a RFP of an All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages (on premise) License application to El Kiosco Corp. d/b/a El Kiosco at 212 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. Present was Attorney Jeffrey Turco, Johanna Giraldo, manager. Attorney Turco spoke and gave the reasons for the consideration of obtaining the All Kinds of Alcoholic license through the RFP process. He stated that previously El Kiosco bought and transferred a Beer and Wine license to this establishment. Commissioner Christmas asked, "How is the business doing?" Johanna replied very well and the neighborhood has accepted our concept. The reason El Kiosco is seeking an All Alcohol license, is because our customers want a cocktail something else besides beer and wine. Chief Houghton stated there are no issues. Public speaking portion opened. Councilor Robinson spoke that he supports El Kiosco and that it is a friendly place, but gets cheated not being able to enjoy a drink. No one else spoke, public speaking closed. The licensing commission asked about their current beer and wine license, El Kiosco has six months to sell it, if not able, it will become city owned. Vice Chairperson Cherniack motioned to approve, McAteer seconded and vote unanimous.

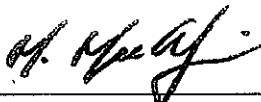


Discussion on Request for Proposals on new licenses- Kushala Sip Coffee. The Licensing Commission discussed started by Vice Chairperson Cherniack saying that the information is confusing when Cheryl Watson Fisher and City Manager Tom Ambrosino are not on the same page with the issuance of the RFP liquor licenses. Chairperson MacAlpine understanding is the City has the liquor licenses but waiting for state legislature approval of the Home Rule petition. Therefore, since we wanted these licenses to return to our community and what is in the best interest of Chelsea and making sure, these licenses returned to Chelsea. We were not giving them out until there is a crazy need in the city for these licenses to go out. MacAlpine expressed her opinion that there is need at this time to get more liquor licenses in the city and to give out licenses prior to those being approved. Believes the Home Rule petition is what the city is waiting for, which will turn them into RFP licenses. So in the event these were awarded to someone in the community, and they chose to close down the business, the license would return to the city. We in turn give the license to someone else of our choosing rather than them selling to whomever they choose. At this point, these licenses are held up in the state legislature. Otherwise, if we give out the licenses prior to the petition, they are no longer RFP licenses but standard licenses. Vice Chairperson Cherniack states that we have been waiting several months, and she is trying to balance the business community and to bring business to Chelsea. If we wait to make decisions on these licenses, small business will not be successful. Most of the commission are in favor of Kushala Sip Coffee House license, pending the RFP, since they are not open for business, move to have them on the next meeting. McAteer wants a motion to approve the license, no seconded. Christmas motions to approve for the November meeting, Cherniack seconded, and unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm

Next meeting: November 10, 2022

Adopted:



Michael McAteer



