

**TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes – November 9, 2022**  
**Council Chambers – Village Hall**  
**801 Burlington Avenue, Downers Grove**

Commissioner Novak called the November 9, 2022 meeting of the Transportation and Parking Commission to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chairman Carter, Commissioners Novak, Lincoln, O’Malley, Shiliga, Heverin, McDonough

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Community Development Stan Popovich, Transportation Manager Mike Tuman, and CSO Supervisor Jim Hartleb

**Visitor Roster:** Michael & Andrea Meyer, Doug Conderman, Bill & Cathy Steinhaus, Bob Bohaty, Janice Fellows, Haran Rashes, Kevin Gryl, Emily Friel, Roy & Donna Clavey, Robert Falli, Dave Straub, Andrew Agustin, Mary Bower, Holly Fiala, Connie Ivan, Fred Schaefflein, Sue & Jerry Prybycien, Tom & Debbie Lackey, Joseph Avram, Rich Bennema, Connie Ivan

A quorum was established.

Chairman Carter reviewed the procedures to be followed for the meeting, explaining that the Commission will forward a recommendation to the Village Council for approval.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 12, 2022 MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONER NOVAK MOVED TO ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES AS IS.  
 COMMISSIONER MCDONOUGH SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE 7:0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No public comment on non-agenda items.

**File #13-22 Neighborhood Traffic Study #8**

Public Works Transportation Manager Mike Tuman introduced Neighborhood Traffic Study #8 which encompasses a large neighborhood in the south portion of the Village.

Michael Werthmann from KLOA Inc. presented summary information from the draft report.

**Purpose of Study:**

To analyze existing transportation operations and perform a comprehensive review of the whole neighborhood to establish consistency within the neighborhood, and within the Village. A request for a change involves looking at the whole neighborhood and how overall transportation conditions can be improved for every mode of transportation. Also looked at mitigating existing transportation issues within the neighborhood.

### **Study Area:**

Bounded by 63rd St on the north; Main St and some commercial uses on the east; 75th St and some commercial uses on the south; and Woodward Ave on the west. Neighborhood is mostly made up of single family and multi-family homes. There are other uses within the neighborhood including some commercial and office uses on the border of the neighborhood, particularly on the south side and some along Main St. Downers Grove South High School is located to the north, Kingsley Elementary School, and six parks are also located within the neighborhood. This contributes to a number of activities and uses within the neighborhood adding to traffic volumes.

Comprehensive evaluation of existing conditions in the neighborhood through extensive field investigation and observation of the transportation system. Inventoried all signs and striping. Observed operations in the neighborhood of two schools multiple times. Performed daily traffic counts and speed surveys at forty-eight locations in the neighborhood during two weekdays last spring. Vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle counts at eighteen intersections. Collected and reviewed various transportation data, most importantly including historical crash data in the neighborhood.

Study considers issues such as adequacy of traffic control at intersections, pedestrian and bicycle safety, facilities and accommodations within the neighborhood, roadway traffic volumes, and vehicle speeds within the neighborhood.

### **Project Findings:**

- Traffic volumes are within the national standards.
- Roads and intersections are all operating at good levels of service and are generally operating well. With the two schools, particularly the high school, there is some spot congestion at the intersections around the school. This is inherent with all schools given fixed start and end times. The congestion only lasts for about 20 minutes in the morning and 20 minutes in the afternoon. Outside of that, both schools function well.
- Crash data on internal neighborhood streets indicates very few accidents over the past three years (2018, 2019, 2020). The neighborhood averaged less than 15 accidents per year, and very few intersections had more than one accident per year in any location.
- Speeds generally are higher than expected above posted speed limits

### **Preliminary Recommendations:**

- Provide some form of traffic control: either a two-way stop, one-way stop, all-way stop or traffic signal at all of the intersections within the neighborhood. Yield signs are confusing to most people. The number of intersections under all-way stop sign control is proposed to increase from eleven to seventeen.
- Additional signage and striping recommended to further mitigate speeds in the neighborhood.
- Reduce the posted speed limit on Dunham Rd from 30 mph to 25 mph so the entire section of Dunham is 25 mph.

- Establish 20 mph park zones along several of the parks.
- Install 20 mph school speed limit signs on Powell St. between Norfolk & Palmer.
- Install new speed limit signs and/or add yellow borders along the existing speed limit signs. Look to see where speed limit signs can be added in the neighborhood for reinforcement.
- Pedestrian Enhancements: Look to add and replace crosswalks within the neighborhood with high visibility ladder style crosswalks at several intersections, many where all-way stops are going and around higher pedestrian activity areas such as parks and schools. Add school and park signs at select intersections. Work with DuPage County to install countdown pedestrian traffic signals at all of the traffic signals that border the neighborhood.
- Bicycle Enhancements: Designate 71st St. as a neighborhood bike route, adding sharrow pavement markings on both sides of the road. Install more bike route signs on the designated bike routes. Consider designating Norfolk St. between Springside Ave. & Barrett St. as the neighborhood bike route.
- Install Traffic Calming Measures: Double yellow centerline pavement markings on Prentiss Dr. & 71st St. Install curb extensions at Norfolk St. & Powell St. by Kingsley School. Install edge of pavement lines along both sides of 71st St. Use of speed monitors and enforcement.

#### **Next Step:**

Compile and evaluate comments received at the TaP meeting. Produce a revised study and present to the Village Council, then implement recommendations as approved by the Village Council.

Staff received 30 responses to resident notification letters or posting of the agenda with 27 in favor or requesting additional items for consideration, and 3 opposed due to unnecessary and excessive proliferation of signs.

A specific request was for an All-Way stop to be included for the intersection of Carpenter St at Palmer St. Staff reviewed this request and agrees that this location should be recommended for an All-Way stop.

Many residents were concerned about enforcement to address speeding within the study area. Several resident concerns were in regards to the County roadways, and Village staff will work with County to address concerns.

There were several speed concerns submitted about Bolson Dr. on a segment that was not included in the original data collection effort. Additional traffic counts are being performed and that data will be included in the final report.

#### **CHAIRMAN CARTER OPENED DISCUSSION AMONGST THE COMMISSION**

Chairman Carter: There had been discussion at the high school about doing a right-in, right-out on 63rd St but he did not see that in this study. Mr. Tuman stated that this study focused on the residential areas within the boundary limits. The recommendations from the previous safety study have either been implemented or continue to be pursued by District 99 and the Village.

Commissioner Heverin: Asked when the studies were conducted and what the time period was. Mr. Werthmann stated most of the counts were conducted over three weeks in May 2022.

Commissioner Lincoln: Asked how the 15 crashes per year in the neighborhood compares to other neighborhoods in the Village. Mr. Werthmann stated that for over 100 intersections in the neighborhood, the number of crashes is very low.

## **CHAIRMAN CARTER OPENED UP THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON FILE #13-22**

Jerry Prybycien of 6611 Springside

- Concerned about speeding, and stop signs, especially after South High gets out of school.
- Parking on streets is not patrolled.
- Requests enforcement.

Bob Falli of Camden Rd

- Requests speed and stop sign enforcement at Camden & Devereux.

Andrew Agustin of 7116 Dexter

- Concern: Traffic light at Main St & Dunham. Requests lower speed limit and flashing warning light, and signal warning sign. Concerned about LED signal lights and snow coverage on signal lights.

Kevin Gryl of 1850 Bolson Dr

- Requests speed enforcement on Bolson, 1800 block to Woodward.
- Requests timing of traffic signal at 63rd & Springside be adjusted

Haran Rashes of 1042 Pinewood

- Requests speed enforcement on Main Street and pedestrian crossing at Dunham.

Joey Avram of 6801 Powell

- Requests perpendicular crosswalks at 68th & Powell.

Kelly Burton of 63rd & Powell

- Concerned about crashes at 63rd & Powell or Middaugh. Requests left turn lanes.

Debbie Martin 6538 Main St

- Requests slowing of traffic on Palmer, 68th & Main St, and lower speed limit on Main St.

Holly Fiala of 1027 Claremont

- Concerned about S-curve location and hazard for pulling out from Claremont onto Main.

Michael Meyer of 1016 Claremont

- Concerned about S-curve on Main St and pedestrian safety crossing Main St.
- Requests pedestrian activated crossing for Main St crossing to McCollum Park and lower speed limit on Main St.

Connie Ivan of 7206 Ticonderoga

- Concerned about Devereux & 75th by Access Medical Center. Requests no parking from Borman to 75th St.
- Requests change to LED street lights for better visibility at night at the corner of 75th & Deveraux.

Sue Prybycien of 6611 Springside

- Not in favor of more signage.

Rich Bennema of 1825 Sturbridge

- Opposed to all excessive signage and requests limited and targeted adjustments, if anything.
- Requests review and analysis of past improvements prior to placing more signage.

### **CHAIRMAN CARTER CLOSED THE PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **CHAIRMAN CARTER OPENED DISCUSSION AMONGST THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner McDonough: Asked if Village is allowed to add enhancements to County ROW or traffic signals. Mr. Tuman answered this is not allowed but we will discuss requests with county staff.

Commissioner Shiliga: Supports changes. Asked what is expected outcome when moving from yield to stop signs. Mr. Tuman reported that stop signs provide positive right-of-way control. Mr. Werthmann indicated it provides benefits to pedestrians and bicyclists.

Commissioner Novak: Discussed stop signs are safer than yield signs for pedestrians and bicyclists, and that costs of signage is less expensive than other options.

Commissioner Heverin: Asked if the entire traffic study is recommended, what is the number of total new stop signs. Mr. Tuman reported that the preliminary count is 68.

Commissioner O'Malley: Asked about potentially splitting the neighborhood into smaller zones to determine needs. Mr. Tuman stated that recommendations in the study are specific to locations, even though the study area was larger than previous studies.

Commissioner Lincoln: Asked about intent to convert all yields to stops. Concerned about the cost of additional stop signs. Asked about Main St. pedestrian crossing concerns and bike routes. Mr. Tuman indicated conversion to stops from yields is the way the Village is progressing, and will discuss Main St. concerns with the County.

Commissioner Carter: Concerned about resident requests for enforcement. Does not know that several stop signs are the answer to their concerns. Interested in County issues including LED signal heads and Main Street pedestrian crossing.

Commissioner Heverin: Asked how communication with PD occurs regarding resident concerns. Mr. Tuman explained that concerns are discussed at staff level and coordination meetings.

Commissioner Lincoln: Existing crosswalk on Main St to the park is a concern and would like to see it addressed with the County. Inclined to vote for the plan as a whole, but concerned about the size of the plan and has some reservations about signage at cul-de-sacs.

Commissioner Novak: Points out that TaP Commission is a recommending body and Council makes final vote on what is implemented. Mentioned that it's presently difficult to fully staff police patrols.

Chairman Carter called for a motion.

**WITH RESPECT TO FILE #13-22, COMMISSIONER SHILIGA MOVED TO MAKE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE PROPOSED TRAFFIC CONTROL MODIFICATIONS IN NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC STUDY #8 INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF AN ALL-WAY STOP AT CARPENTER ST. & PALMER ST. TO VILLAGE COUNCIL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HEVERIN.**

**IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN CARTER & COMMISSIONERS: LINCOLN, O'MALLEY, SHILIGA, HEVERIN, MCDONOUGH**

**NOT IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONER NOVAK**

**THE MOTION PASSED 6:1.**

**DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Carter was presented a certificate of recognition for over 10 years of service on the Transportation and Parking Commission as he is stepping down.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

No communications at this time.

**COMMISSIONER MCDONOUGH MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER NOVAK SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 8:30 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Andrea Banke  
Recording Secretary

**DOWNERS GROVE LIQUOR COMMISSION  
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
801 BURLINGTON AVENUE  
Thursday March 2, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Strelau called the March 2, 2023 Liquor Commission meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Fenton, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Kastory, Mr. Mehta, Mr. Shah (6:37), Chairman Strelau

**ABSENT:** Ms. Rutledge

**STAFF:** Carol Kuchynka, Liaison to the Liquor Commission, Assistant Village Attorney Brandan Rissman

**OTHERS:** Suzie Positano, Kimberly Mitchell, Doug Sinars, Krystal Smith, Tynia Thomas, Dan Mukenschnabl, Valerie Fabac, Ajinder Sandhu, Al HB Husain, Court Reporter

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Strelau asked for approval of the minutes for the January 5, 2023 Liquor Commission meeting and asked members if there were any corrections, changes or additions.

Let the record reflect spelling corrections of Commission member names. Hearing said corrections, the January 5, 2023 minutes of the Liquor Commission meeting were approved as amended.

Chairman Strelau reminded those present that this evening's meeting was being recorded on Village-owned equipment. Staff was present to keep minutes for the record.

**IV. APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE**

Chairman Strelau made the following statements:

"The next order of business is to conduct a public hearing for liquor license applications. For the benefit of all present, I would like to state that this Commission does not determine the granting or denial of the issuance of any license. We may, at the end of each hearing, make a finding or recommendation with respect to the application. If necessary, the Commission may adjourn a hearing to a later date in order to have benefit of further information."

"At the conclusion of the hearing, the Commission will determine any recommendations it wishes to make to the Liquor Commissioner".

"The Liquor Commissioner, who is the Mayor of Downers Grove, will, pursuant to Section 3-12 of the Ordinance, render decisions regarding issuance of available licenses."

"Hearings by this Commission are held according to the following format: 1) reading of information pertinent to the application, 2) comments from the applicant, 3) discussion by the Commission, 4) comments from staff, 5) comments from the public, and 6) motion and finding by the Commission."

**Eleven 26 – 5126 Main Street**

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business was Eleven 26 Main, LLC d/b/a Eleven 26 located at 5126 Main Street. She stated that the applicant is seeking a Class “R-1”, full alcohol, on-premise consumption liquor license and a Class “O” outdoor liquor license.

Chairman Strelau asked that any individual(s) representing the applicant step forward and be seated. She asked that any individual(s) giving testimony, state and spell their name for the record, indicate their affiliation with the establishment and be sworn in by the court reporter.

Ms. Suzanne Positano and Ms. Kimberly Mitchell were sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Positano introduced herself as owner and Ms. Mitchell introduced herself as the general manager.

Chairman Strelau asked the applicant to explain what they are about.

Ms. Positano stated that she and her partner Doug Sinars co-own the new establishment. She stated that Eleven 26 is the day her deceased brother’s birthday and the restaurant was named in honor of him. She stated the restaurant has been a lifelong dream. She stated that her partner Doug owns the building.

Ms. Positano stated that Eleven 26 will be a restaurant with liquor service, adult/kids menus and live music. She stated that they will have many genres of music at the facility.

Ms. Positano has resided in Downers Grove for the past six years. She added that they were renovating the old Busy Bee bakery site. She noted in memory of the Busy Bee they are going to be attempting to get their donut recipe and desserts on the menu. She stated that she would like to observe tradition of the establishment that was a part of Downers for years.

Chairman Strelau asked for questions from the Commission

Mr. Johnson asked about the Class O liquor license. He asked to explain the plan for that area. Ms. Positano replied that they will be fully staffed to service the outdoor area.

Ms. Positano stated they will have plenty of staff to service tables and two general managers will operate the restaurant.

Mr. Johnson asked how many employees they plan to have when the restaurant is fully operational. Ms. Positano replied 20-25. Ms. Mitchell stated that during events they will also plan for security on the weekends.

Mr. Johnson asked about their liquor handling experience on the application which was left out. Ms. Mitchell replied that she worked in the nightclub industry for 10 years on the east coast. She stated that she transplanted in 2010 to Illinois. She stated that she has both bartending and night club industry. Ms. Positano stated that her parents owned a restaurant in Elmhurst where she works at a few years as well. She stated that being in the music industry she has experience in entertainment/hospitality industry serving and handling liquor at various venues.

Mr. Johnson stated that their manual indicates they will hold training quarterly and weekly meetings as required by management. Ms. Positano replied every Tuesday night they will have an all staff meeting.

She stated that they will cover the schedule for the week and make sure bartenders and servers are on point with proper service.

Mr. Fenton noticed that both of them were certified. He asked who all will be required to be as well. Ms. Positano replied that her other manager Dan had submitted his certification along with their employee Valarie. She stated that anyone serving will not allowed to work until they are certified.

Ms. Kastory had no questions.

Mr. Mehta was curious about them feel the need for security. Ms. Mitchell replied that if there is a weekend event you want to make sure everyone is safe and have security. Ms. Positano replied similar to Ballydoyle, they would have a door person. She stated some days they might have a cover charge and when they host a bigger show they would have additional security.

Mr. Mehta asked if they felt this would be more of a bar or a restaurant. Ms. Positano replied restaurant and noted customers will be sitting, eating while listening to music.

Ms. Positano stated that they will be serving tapas food. She stated that they have a gluten free menu along with a variety of desserts. She stated that this is not just a music venue.

Mr. Mehta understood that Ballydoyle has door staff when they have shows and he noted other restaurants if they have security, he has not noticed that they do. Ms. Mitchell stated that "security" is the word she uses. Ms. Positano noted that they would have someone at the door taking any fees. She stated that there are eating areas along with the back area has a stage.

Ms. Positano noted that there will be French doors at the front of the establishment. She stated that there will be a piano bar and seating for eating areas and televisions. She noted that the long hall will be adorned with music albums and information on artists. She stated that there was a circular bar in the back of the restaurant with a replica of her brother's guitar. She stated that there is seating for eating along with a stage for entertainment. She stated that the kitchen is located to the rear of the establishment.

Mr. Mehta asked if there was a counter at the front of the restaurant. Ms. Positano replied yes and it is seating where you cannot walk through the French doors.

Mr. Mehta asked if there will be age restricted shows. Ms. Positano replied that they are all ages as it is a restaurant with entertainment. She stated it is all ages but on the weekends or later at night they have discussed after 11 pm they may revert to 21+.

Ms. Kuchynka clarified that in the event they hold activities which are entertainment based and/or ticketed events, a Special Event liquor license may be required. She noted those would be necessary if the main and principal business is not in operation. She confirmed with Ms. Positano that tables would remain in place at all times. Ms. Positano agreed.

Mr. Mehta asked if it was their plan for all ages all the time. Ms. Positano replied yes.

Mr. Shah asked what the seating capacity is. Ms. Positano replied 147. Ms. Kuchynka advised that there will be seats around the rear bar. She stated that Ms. Positano advised her that food service would be available at the bar.

Mr. Shah asked what the capacity would be if they were to become an entertainment venue for an evening. Ms. Kuchynka noted that their capacity would increase for standing room. She stated that Community Development would need to confirm those numbers in plan review and noted that they may be

asked for their architect to provide a number based on that. She stated that calculations for those activities will be required.

Mr. Shah asked if liquor licenses cap the amount of people allowed. Ms. Kuchynka replied no. She stated that the Fire Department would need to provide an occupant load based on the life safety code.

Ms. Positano stated that they would like to have a Gospel brunch on Sundays and offer brunch/lunch on Saturdays.

Chairman Strelau asked clarification from staff that they cannot move tables without a Special Event license for a music venue. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes. She stated that they can apply for a Special Event license if they plan events outside of the scope of the normal day to day business. Ms. Positano replied that they would like to do a grand opening with red carpet, while bringing in a big name entertainer. She stated that once in a while they would like to bring in some special act. Ms. Kuchynka noted that tables can be moved for larger dining parties for example, but when they are not operating as a restaurant the special event will kick in. She stated that staff would evaluate the event, decide if it requires a special license, address capacity, security, if required, and notify departments if it may affect traffic and parking, etc.

Chairman Strelau cautioned them that a popular artist is going to draw a large crowd and security may be an issue. Ms. Positano replied that she organizes events and has a security team come in for crowd control, etc. She noted that they have caps for tickets.

Chairman asked Ms. Positano and Ms. Mitchell if they ever had a liquor violation. Both replied no.

Chairman Strelau stated that she loved the concept as it is different than what we have. She noted that there may be some pitfalls, but being in the business they should be able to identify with that. She was reassured that they wanted to hold weekly meetings and noted that they may need more round up with staff for special events.

Chairman Strelau noted that people who make their employees understand how important liquor service is. She advised them that the Village conducts control buys in order to see how accurately they card.

Chairman Strelau asked when they plan to open. Ms. Positano replied that they are starting the buildout in a week.

Ms. Positano stated that they have a big team meeting each Tuesday to discuss the agenda for the week. She stated that every day they will have a team huddle before the shift. She looks forward to bringing something exciting to town.

Chairman Strelau asked staff for recommendations or comments pertinent to this request. Ms. Kuchynka referred to the outdoor café plan. She stated that the plan is only a proposal at this stage. She stated that Community Development staff will need to review the layout and use of the public street and sidewalk areas. She stated that a license agreement will be required to utilize the public property. She stated that the café may or may not be open this season, depending upon when they open. She advised that the café season runs March 15-November 15<sup>th</sup> yearly.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that other factors affecting the finding includes receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy, dram shop insurance, annual fee, satisfactory background checks and employee certifications.

Chairman Strelau asked for comments from the public. There were none.

Hearing the testimony given in this case, Chairman Strelau asked for a recommendation from the Commission concerning its finding of “qualified” or “not qualified” with respect to their request for a Class R-1 liquor license.

**MR. FENTON MOVED TO FIND ELEVEN 26 MAIN, LLC D/B/A ELEVEN 26 LOCATED AT 5126 MIAN STREET QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS "R-1", FULL ALCOHOL, ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. JOHNSON SECONDED.**

**Aye:** Mr. Fenton, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Kastory, Mr. Mehta, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 6:0:0**

Hearing the testimony given in this case, Chairman Strelau asked for a recommendation from the Commission concerning its finding of “qualified” or “not qualified” with respect to their request for a Class O liquor license.

**MR. FENTON MOVED TO FIND ELEVEN 26 MAIN, LLC D/B/A ELEVEN 26 LOCATED AT 5126 MAIN STREET QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS "O", OUTDOOR LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. JOHNSON SECONDED.**

**Aye:** Mr. Fenton, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Kastory, Mr. Mehta, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 6:0:0**

**Shikara – 1620 75th**

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business was Ashyana Banquets, LLC d/b/a Shikara located at 1620 75<sup>th</sup> Street. She stated that the applicant is seeking a Class “R-1”, full alcohol, on-premise consumption liquor license.

Chairman Strelau asked that any individual(s) representing the applicant step forward and be seated. She asked that any individual(s) giving testimony, state and spell their name for the record, indicate their affiliation with the establishment and be sworn in by the court reporter.

Mr. Ajinder Sandhu was sworn in by the court reporter. He stated that he was part owner of the establishment. Mr. Al Husain stated that he was counsel representing Mr. Sandhu.

Chairman Strelau asked the applicant to explain what they are about.

Mr. Sandhu stated that he was buying the property along with the rights to the restaurant and banquet hall. He stated he is seeking a liquor license for the property.

Chairman Strelau asked if there was a liquor license held at this location before. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes. Mr. Husain stated that this is a transfer of ownership.

Ms. Kuchynka advised that the current owners has held a liquor license since November of 2004 and has passed every control buy done on the location. She stated that Mr. Sandhu had advised her that the entire staff will be retained.

Mr. Sandhu stated that all employees will remain. He stated that the manager running the property know will be hired as well. Mr. Husain stated that they do not expect anything to change as far as staffing.

Chairman Strelau asked for questions from the Commission

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Sandhu about his liquor experience at Liquorama. Mr. Sandhu replied that the own a liquor store in Chicago. He stated that he has owned the store for the past 6 months. Mr. Johnson asked him if there had been any issues at that location. Mr. Sandhu replied no. Mr. Johnson asked if family was working at that location. Mr. Sandhu replied the manager who has worked there for the past 7-8 years had been retained.

Mr. Johnson stated that according to the manual they intend to review policy quarterly. He encouraged them to do that more often. Mr. Sandhu replied they can do it monthly. Mr. Husain stated that over the life of Mr. Sandhu's career he has operated 5-10 different liquor stores all without incident.

Mr. Fenton asked Mr. Sandhu if he is just taking over ownership. Mr. Sandhu replied yes.

Mr. Fenton confirmed that he will retain the entire staff. Mr. Sandhu replied yes.

Ms. Kastory had no questions.

Mr. Mehta asked Mr. Sandhu if he has taken over already. Mr. Sandhu replied no. He stated the takeover will occur at the end of the month or in April.

Mr. Mehta stated when he looks at this establishment it is two separate businesses – a banquet hall and a restaurant. He asked staff if they hold two separate licenses. Ms. Kuchynka stated no. She noted that the Village does not have a banquet license. She stated that they are classified as a Class R-1 restaurant. She stated that the facility is housed under one building. She stated that there is a restaurant in operation and a banquet facility. She stated that the facility is 37,000 square feet.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that the restaurant would be open 10 am to 8 pm and the banquet areas would vary.

Mr. Sandhu stated that there are 4-5 banquet areas. He stated that in combination, they can accommodate up to 700 guests. He stated that the banquet hours can run from 8am-1am.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that the banquets are pre-booked events. Mr. Sandhu added that there are 75-100 banquets that are already booked. Mr. Mehta advised his niece is having a baby shower there tomorrow.

Mr. Sandhu advised that Mr. Jain, the current owner, will remain for 6-8 months.

Mr. Mehta stated that he was very familiar with the property and events at the location which is an Indian focused facility.

Mr. Mehta asked Mr. Sandhu if he had banquet experience. Mr. Sandhu replied no.

Mr. Mehta stated that this facility is notorious for having bars set up in the parking lot by guests. He stated that guests bring alcohol and consume in the lot. He encouraged them to better monitor the parking lot area so that nothing impacts his license inside. Mr. Sandhu replied that they plan to put more lighting on the exterior. He noted that they may add security on the weekends. Mr. Husain added that

security cameras are also be an option. He stated that they will contact the police if they see anything unusual or violent.

Mr. Mehta noted that in the times he has been in the facility he also has not seen anyone being carded. He noted that they may be passing tests on the restaurant side, but the banquets may need some addressing. He asked that they be more cognizant.

Mr. Shah asked Mr. Sandhu if he will be working at the facility or if he will just own. Mr. Sandhu replied ownership.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that if they have problems in the parking lot to please contact the police department.

Chairman Strelau asked how many actual employees he plans to retain. Mr. Sandhu replied 30-40. She asked if they were all BASSET certified. Mr. Sandhu replied the bartenders and servers. She asked how many employees are bartenders. Mr. Sandhu replied 6-8. Ms. Kuchynka noted that busboys, cooks and anyone who does not handle liquor will need certifications.

Chairman Strelau asked Mr. Sandhu about his liquor handling experience and if it was in an ownership capacity or ownership. Mr. Sandhu replied both. She asked if it was in Illinois. Mr. Sandhu stated that he had a gas station in IL with full liquor.

Chairman Strelau stated that it is his intention to use the current owner to get them up and running and then have to hire a manager. Mr. Sandhu stated that the current manager who has been working there for the last 5 years will be hired as well. Mr. Husain stated that the owner will remain on as a managing consultant for the next 6-8 months.

Chairman Strelau stated that this is a huge facility. She stated that someone needs to be imparting the importance of liquor license. She stated that the managers need to clearly understand how important this license is as the facility is useless without a liquor license. She hopes they continue to be successful.

Chairman Strelau asked staff for recommendations or comments pertinent to this request. Ms. Kuchynka replied that issuance of the license is contingent upon receipt of an updated to the Certificate of Occupancy, signed lease, dram shop insurance, annual fee, satisfactory background checks and employee certifications for any new hires.

Chairman Strelau asked for comments from the public. There were none.

Hearing the testimony given in this case, Chairman Strelau asked for a recommendation from the Commission concerning its finding of “qualified” or “not qualified” with respect to their request for a Class R-1 liquor license.

**MR. MEHTA MOVED TO FIND ASHYANA BANQETS, LLC D/B/A SHIKARA LOCATED AT 1620 75<sup>TH</sup> STREET QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS "R-1", FULL ALCOHOL, ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. JOHNSON SECONDED.**

**Aye:** Mr. Mehta, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Fenton, Ms. Kastory, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 6:0:0**

### 7-Eleven – 5105 Fairview

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business was White Hen Pantry, Inc. d/b/a 7-Eleven located at 5105 Fairview Avenue. She stated that the applicant is seeking a Class “P-1”, full alcohol, off-premise consumption liquor license.

Chairman Strelau asked that any individual(s) representing the applicant step forward and be seated. She asked that any individual(s) giving testimony, state and spell their name for the record, indicate their affiliation with the establishment and be sworn in by the court reporter.

Ms. Krystal Smith and Ms. Tynia Thomas were sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Thomas introduced herself as the store manager.

Ms. Thomas stated that alcohol is a majority of the sales at the site and they are seeking a license to continue to sell liquor from the location.

Chairman Strelau asked for questions from the Commission.

Mr. Shah asked Ms. Thomas to explain the change of ownership. Ms. Thomas replied that they operated under a franchise and turned back to corporate.

Mr. Shah asked Ms. Thomas to explain their carding procedures. Ms. Thomas stated that their system requires identification to be scanned for any liquor or tobacco sales. She stated that clerks have to physically look at the id and have to scan it. She stated that no alcohol can be purchased without an id.

Mr. Shah asked if the franchisee had the same system as corporate. Ms. Thomas replied yes, however, she added a few extra steps to the system.

Mr. Shah asked Ms. Thomas if she or corporate controls the system. Ms. Thomas replied she controls it locally.

Mr. Shah stated that he was concerned that the other 7-Eleven had been called back to the Commission because they failed a control buy because staff was overriding the system. He felt that stressing that overriding the system is not allowed is important. Ms. Thomas replied that staff cannot override the system.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that Ms. Smith was present for the violation hearing. She stated that they had discussed measures that corporate has taken since the violation. She stated that they have altered policy to card and scan everyone’s identification.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that the site was previously operated by a franchisee John Panicola, who operated the location since 2014 with one control failure in 2015 and all other tests passed.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that all employees will be retained, with the exception of John who was the owner/liquor manager for this location.

Ms. Kuchynka stated the previous owner Salam’s Convenience d/b/a 7-Eleven held a license from 2007-2013 and passed all tests. She added that corporate operated the store from 2006-2007 without incident.

Mr. Mehta asked what time they sell. Ms. Thomas replied 8am-1am, Monday through Friday, 8am-2 am Saturday and Sunday 9am to 1am.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that there have been no sales from this location since the franchisee left on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that this is a 24 hour store.

Mr. Kastory asked Ms. Thomas how long she has worked at this location. Ms. Thomas replied since December.

Mr. Fenton stated that he wanted them to make sure there was no possibility for an override and based on what he heard it sounds as though that is fully in place.

Mr. Johnson asked how the company has an independent party to test the site. Ms. Smith replied that the in-store stings happens six times a year with secret shoppers.

Mr. Johnson asked what the repercussions are should a store fail one of their tests. Ms. Smith stated that if an employee is involved in a sale, they must re-take the BASSET certification and any further violations result in termination. She stated that if it is a police operation, there is immediate termination.

Mr. Johnson asked how often they hold employee meetings concerning alcohol. Ms. Thomas stated that she holds Zoom meetings every Sunday at 4pm with her team.

Mr. Johnson asked about locking coolers and asked if there are locks on the coolers. Ms. Thomas replied yes.

Mr. Johnson asked about the layout. He stated that hard alcohol is by the tobacco behind the cashier. Ms. Thomas replied yes.

Mr. Johnson stated that he in is the area and has been in the location over twenty years. He stated that sometimes there is only one cashier with a line of customers. He told them to keep in mind the security of the hard liquor.

Chairman Strelau asked Ms. Thomas about the number of employees. Ms. Thomas replied six.

Chairman Strelau asked if they all are BASSET trained. Ms. Thomas replied yes.

Chairman Strelau asked if they have locking coolers. Ms. Thomas replied yes.

Chairman Strelau asked how they handle customers that come in at 3am and try to purchase liquor. Ms. Thomas stated that it does happen and they explain to the customer the allowable hours. She noted if they have any problems they will call 911.

Chairman Strelau reminded them to reiterate the importance of proper liquor sales

Chairman Strelau asked staff for recommendations or comments pertinent to this request. Ms. Kuchynka replied that issuance of the license is contingent upon receipt of the annual fee, satisfactory background checks and certifications for any new hires.

Chairman Strelau asked for comments from the public. There were none.

Hearing the testimony given in this case, Chairman Strelau asked for a recommendation from the Commission concerning its finding of “qualified” or “not qualified” with respect to their request for a Class P-1 liquor license.

**MR. FENTON MOVED TO FIND WHITE HEN PANTRY, INC. D/B/A 7-ELEVEN LOCATED AT 5105 FAIRVIEW AVENUE QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS "P-1", FULL ALCOHOL, OFF-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. JOHNSON SECONDED.**

**Aye:** Mr. Fenton, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Mehta, Ms. Kastory, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 6:0:0**

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Strelau asked if there was any discussion, update from staff or comments from the Commission regarding any new business.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that she was currently working on temporary use applications with Community Development for outdoor cafes. She stated that the season runs from March 15-November 15. She advised that some usage of the street will continue. She advised any café operating on public property requires a license agreement for use of it.

Chairman Strelau asked if the street usage will be similar to last year. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that she provided a proposed draft of the café for Eleven 26. She stated that is subject to change once final calculations and store frontage is finalized. She stated that changes to the plan may be done administratively and approved by the Mayor. She stated that she wanted to get them qualified for the outdoor license to have the ability to serve outdoors. Ms. Kuchynka stated that Community Development will need to approve the official café area allowed.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Strelau asked if there was any discussion, update from staff or comments from the Commission regarding any old business.

Ms. Kuchynka referred to the January and February month end reports.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that temporary use application for special events such as the Rotary Fest, Summer Concert Series, Wine Walk and special events are starting to come in.

## **VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none. No members of the public were present for comment.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Concluding business for the evening, Chairman Strelau called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the March 2, 2023 meeting. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:30 p.m.

Discussion immediately after adjournment. Chairman Strelau inquired about the potential violation the Mayor mentioned to her concerning a New Years' Eve event. Ms. Kuchynka replied that she and the Village Attorney handled the matter administratively and had the licensee come in to discuss the case, as it was determined that there was no violation.

Chairman Strelau asked if they still had the license. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes.

Ms. Kuchynka stated she wanted to be clear that she explained the special event process to the applicant concerning events, particularly if they do anything outside the norm of their day to day business and that they get a special event liquor license and/or have security when they have events.

Ms. Kuchynka stated it was determined that there was no violation; therefore; no public hearing was required and they did not operate outside the restrictions of their day to day license.

Chairman Strelau asked if there was a violation in that they advertised the event. Ms. Kuchynka replied that they did not find an advertisement. She stated that DJ that rented the facility had posted the event for his followers to attend. Mr. Shah asked if that would be false advertising. Ms. Kuchynka stated there was no violation. Chairman Strelau stated she preferred this be handled in public

Mr. Shah was unaware of the New Years' Eve event.

Mr. Mehta asked what location was it. Ms. Kuchynka replied Downers Sand Club.

Mr. Mehta asked Ms. Kuchynka if the restaurant inside the Power Mart gas station Power Mart had contacted her. Ms. Kuchynka replied not recently.

Ms. Kuchynka asked that the group reconvene the meeting officially due to the continuing discussion so as not to violate the Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Mehta stated that he spoke with the restaurant owner and was asked about on-site consumption. Ms. Kuchynka stated that the P-1 license classification held by Power Mart is off-premise consumption only. She stated that there is no BYO license for that location either. Mr. Mehta stated he may be waiting to apply as he will eventually be moving into the other building.

Ms. Kuchynka asked for another motion to adjourn.

The meeting was once again adjourned by acclamation at 7:40 p.m.

## Minutes

COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMISSION  
Thursday April 13, 2023  
5:30 P.M.  
VILLAGE HALL – COMMITTEE ROOM  
  
801 BURLINGTON AVENUE  
DOWNERS GROVE, IL

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Present: Nicole Szydowski, John Aguzino, Jessica Bzdyl, Taylor Sommers  
Guests: Erin Venezia, Dave Gardner, Barbara Taylor, Jay Turner  
Staff: Jennifer Rizzo  
Absent: Michael Puzen, Theresa Kulat, DJ Fiore

Approval of August 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes - Motion to Approve – John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

Public Comment – No public comment

New Business:  
Downers Grove YMCA – Farmers Market

Barbara Taylor = Opens Mother's Day weekend May 13<sup>th</sup>, to October 21<sup>st</sup>, at this about 58 vendors have signed up. Which is close to last year. Have not complete come back from the pandemic. Windy Acres, will not be back, so we will have additional farmers this year. Otherwise everyone else will be back.

Musician's lined up 15-20 have signed up for 48 slots. There is a new market manager. But her and Jay are long time for board members and will be helping. Jay Turner spoke about the vendors cannot get staff. Talked about the relocation during the Rotary Fest to Main St. Getting less vendors signing up for that Saturday, in future years might consider skipping that weekend. Ms. Rizzo mentioned that back when we had Heritage Fest that the market that weekend was held at the YMCA location. She asked if there was any thought about returning there. Ms. Taylor advised, vendors don't like that, the YMCA is so busy in the summer that the parking lot will not work. It would not be successful. People like it being downtown. They did not increase the fees for this year. To help the vendors. Ms. Taylor advised about posting the Friday before showing who is coming to the market on social media. Ms. Venezia and Ms. Rizzo spoke of how the Downtown Management and the Village E-News helps promote the market. Ms. Rizzo reminds Ms. Taylor and Mr. Turner that the vendors are allowed to park anywhere downtown they can fit their vehicles.

Motion to approve: John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

#### Downers Grove Moose Lodge #1535 – Car Show

Dave Gardner = same format as last year Lot A and closing Warren Ave from Main to Forest. The event will run May 26<sup>th</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 4-8 pm. This year they will be judging cars and trying to get more sponsors. Try to make it a family event and get the kids out. This helped with membership which increased by 400 last year. Last year they raised \$4,000.00. Mr. Gardner lists a group for every week of a non-for-profit. Mr. Gardner present pictures of some of the events last year. Including FISH Pantry with a picture of Mr. Aguzino. Has advertised with multiple car show websites. Ms. Venezia and Ms. Rizzo also mentioned that they do the same for the Moose Lodge as they do for the Farmers Market.

Motion to approve: Jessica Bzdyl & Second Taylor Sommer

#### Downtown Management – Friday Night Live

Erin Venezia = Last year in partnership with the car show we are continuing with this arrangement. We have a wait list of bands. Lots of bands are coming back. Music will be from 5:30 – 8:00. They pay the bands to play. They perform at the depot. Small crowds stand by and watch. Some people bring lawn chairs. Mr. Gardner explains that this has been a good partnership and that many people want to know who is playing at the train station. So they started posting the lineup. Ms. Szydowski asked if any feedback from the businesses. Ms. Venezia said all positive. Well received overall. A lot more advertising with various magazines. A question was asked about demographics at the car show. Mr. Gardner stated mostly under 30 crowd. Average age of the Moose membership is 50, the car show visitors are 30-60 with families. Average about 60 vehicles, have room for 110 vehicles. Mr. Gardner explained the layout. No additional police officers are not needed for the car show.

Motion to approve: John Aguzino & Second Taylor Sommer

#### Downtown Management – Sidewalk Sale

Erin Venezia – July 20-22, starting at 9, ends when that business closes for the night. Advertising that are usually places. But it gets tricky in advertising it too early since not all businesses have signed up yet. So we will post the businesses on our website when we get closer to the event. Only change is when the event closes. Since now it is base on the businesses hours.

Motion to approve: Jessica Bzdyl & Second John Aguzino

## STAFF REPORT

We started posting the registration for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. We have John Hansen from WGN Radio as our grand marshal. John is a Downers Grove native. Trying to get Tommy Hawk, since John is the voice of the Blackhawks, so we have an in. Still working on bands, schools are still recovering from COVID and have not gotten back into participating in parades. Have spoken with District 99 about having the District 58 combine a band similar to 99's. It is too late in the school year now, so we will bring this up again in the fall. Ms. Szydowski asked about volunteers, as this committee volunteers. Yes we always need more volunteer, Ms. Rizzo is hoping for more staff members could help. Ms. Szydowski asked about high school students. But we need an adult with each student. Ms. Rizzo explain to our need our new members how the parade is set up. With the 5 sections. We explained how we set up each section is set up.

## OLD BUSINESS

No old business

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn John Aguzino, second Jessica Bzdyl

Next Meeting May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING**  
**May 8, 2023**  
**Village Hall**  
**Ante Room**  
**4:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Jillian Mikrut  
 Commissioner Daniel Bondavalli  
 Human Resources Director Lauren Linares  
 Fire Chief Scott Spinazola  
 Village Attorney Enza Petrarca

**ABSENT:** **None.**

The meeting of the Downers Grove Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was called to order at 4:30 PM in the Ante Room at Village Hall. HR Director Lauren Linares conducted roll call: Commissioner Mikrut and Commission Bondavalli were present, along with Fire Chief Scott Spinazola and Village Attorney Enza Petrarca. All were present.

The next order of business at 4:30 PM was to approve the minutes from the Board meeting from March 1, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Mikrut to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Bondavalli.

**VOTE:** **Yea:** Commissioner Mikrut and Commissioner Bondavalli.  
**Nay:** None.  
**Motion passed.**

The next order of business at 4:31 PM was a motion to authorize the creation of a firefighter paramedic eligibility list, once exhausted. A motion was made by Commissioner Bondavalli to authorize the creation of a promotional fire list, which was seconded by Commissioner Mikrut.

**VOTE:** **Yea:** Commissioner Bondavalli and Commissioner Mikrut.  
**Nay:** None.  
**Motion passed.**

The next order of business at 4:34 PM was a motion to approve the changes to the BFPC Rules and Regulations. A motion was made by Commissioner Mikrut to approve the changes to the BFPC Rules and Regulations, which was seconded by Commissioner Bondavalli.

**VOTE:** **Yea:** Commissioner Mikrut and Commissioner Bondavalli.  
**Nay:** None.  
**Motion passed.**

**Meeting of Board of Fire & Police Commissioners****05/08/2023****Page 2**

There being no further business, or public comment, a motion was moved at 4:34 PM by Commissioner Mikrut to adjourn, and Commissioner Bondavalli seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**       **Yea:** Commissioner Mikrut and Commissioner Bondavalli.

**Nay:**         None.

**Motion passed.**