

**DOWNERS GROVE LIQUOR COMMISSION**  
**VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**801 BURLINGTON AVENUE**  
Thursday, March 3, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Strelau called the February 3, 2022 Liquor Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Krusenoski, Mr. Meta, Ms. Rutledge, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**ABSENT:** Mr. Johnson

**STAFF:** Carol Kuchynka, Liaison to the Liquor Commission, Assistant Village Attorney Dawn Didier

**OTHERS:** Caroline Brannan, Jeff Stajduhar, Dan Coudreaut, Kimberley Coudreaut, Harsh Nanavati, Abhishek Jariwala, Court Reporter

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Strelau asked for approval of the minutes for the February 3, 2022 Liquor Commission meeting and asked members if there were any corrections, changes or additions.

Hearing no changes, corrections or additions, the February 3, 2022 minutes of the Liquor Commission meeting were approved as written.

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."

### Honey Jam Café – 401 75<sup>th</sup> Street

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business was Honey Jam Café, LLC d/b/a Honey Jam Café located at 401 75<sup>th</sup> 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.

Caroline Brannan and Jeff Stajduhar were sworn in by the court reporter.

Chairman Strelau asked the applicant to present its case.

Ms. Brannan stated that they have a current location in Downers Grove on Oak Grove Road. She stated that they have an agreement to purchase 401 75<sup>th</sup> and plan to operate it as another Honey Jam. She stated that they are seeking a liquor license which will include cocktails, mimosas and Bloody Mary’s. She stated that liquor is a nice addition to the menu but a small proportion of their sales, with liquor representing 2-3% in total sales. She stated that liquor service is minimal but a nice thing to offer their customers.

Chairman Strelau requested questions from the Commission.

Mr. Shah asked if any servers are under 21. Ms. Brannan replied that she was unsure as they have not taken over ownership. She stated that they plan to keep the staff for the establishment that has been in operation for over 25 years and believed that the current staff was older. She stated that most of their employees are over 21. She added that those servers who are at least 19 years of age must have the carding done and approval given to serve liquor by a manager or another coworker who is over 21.

Ms. Rutledge asked for them to share information on their training program. Mr. Stajduhar replied that staff is required to obtain a food handler and BASSET certification. He stated that they are buddied up with veteran servers.

Mr. Stajduhar stated that they are experiencing issues with driver’s licenses. He noted that DMV locations have been closed and some customers have presented them with expired licenses. He stated that if there is any question about the ID, they will refuse the sale.

Mr. Meta asked if they have had violations for selling to a minor at any of their other location. Mr. Stajduhar replied no.

Mr. Meta asked what the consequences were to a server if they sell to a minor. Ms. Brannan replied that they have a zero tolerance policy set forth in their manual. She added anyone knowingly selling to a minor would be terminated.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if the location was the Downers Delight restaurant site. Ms. Brannan replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if they plan to purchase the location and convert it into another Honey Jam. Ms. Brannan replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski asked about the other Honey Jam locations listed in the application materials. Ms. Brannan replied that they own them all. She stated that all but two are still under the Butterfield name. Mr. Krusenoski asked if there were violations at any of these other locations. Ms. Brannan replied no.

Mr. Krusenoski asked Mr. Stajduhar about his role with the company. Mr. Stajduhar replied he is the Director of Operations.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if Kristina Kummerow will be the liquor manger and asked about her current role with the organization. Ms. Brannan replied yes and that she is the current manager at the Bolingbrook location. Mr. Krusenoski asked if she will oversee the Downers Grove location. Ms. Brannan replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski noted that they will not accept licenses that do not look right. He asked if they meant vertical. Mr. Stajduhar replied that if there is any damage to the license they will not accept it. He also noted that some customers try to use a picture of their license on their phone – which they do not accept. Mr. Stajduhar noted that they also do not accept the vertical license.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that non-acceptance of the vertical license does away with any guesswork about having to calculate a date.

Mr. Krusenoski asked Ms. Brannan if they would terminate anyone knowingly selling to a minor. Ms. Brannan noted that in some instances they would not sell knowingly if it were a good looking fake ID. Mr. Stajduhar noted it would be cause for termination if they do not request to ask to see an ID.

Mr. Stajduhar stated that they talk in depth about carding and stings. He stated that as a manager, he regularly gets asked to look at and validate an ID. He stated that if servers have any doubt, they are encouraged to have a manager look at an ID.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that he liked the term controlled buy vs. sting. He stated that licensees are advised of the program and there is no deception when the agent shows their real under 21 ID.

Mr. Krusenoski noted that they have done an excellent job in that there have been no violations. He stated that with the small amount of revenue they receive would be disproportionate to violation fines and fees they would face if they fail. Ms. Brannan agreed.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that they must be vigilant day in and day out and never let their guard down. He stated that management sets the tone and whether or not they will tolerate non-compliance.

Chairman Strelau thanked them for opening a second location. She asked if Honey Jam was originally owned by Portillo's. Ms. Brannan replied yes, back in 2010 and noted that she is the second purchaser of it and has owned it since 2016. Ms. Brannan noted that the name was derived when he called his wife "honey" and J A M are the initials of his sons.

Chairman Strelau stated that they will now be operating seven restaurants. She asked Ms. Brannan if they are comfortable being able to keep track of all of the locations. She stated that they will need to rely on having good staff that are well trained and who will do the right thing every day.

Ms. Brannan stated that she relies on their leadership team. She added that they grow from within where servers have worked their way up to management. She stated that they have a very loyal, long term staff who are passionate and take pride in their work and take things seriously as the owners.

Ms. Brannan noted that Jeff is very hands on and is in every store all the time. She stated that district managers are also in the stores that help with training. She stated that they would not keep growing if they did not have such a good leadership team.

Chairman Strelau asked about their hours of operation. Mr. Stajduhar replied they are open from 6:30 AM to 2:30PM during the week and 6AM-3PM on Saturdays and Sundays.

Chairman Strelau asked how they manage liquor sales during off hours. Ms. Brannan replied that their point of sale cash register machine can lock out liquor sales and will not let employees ring up the items.

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 a 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. KRUSENOSKI MOVED TO FIND HONEY JAM CAFÉ, LLC D/B/A HONEY JAM CAFE LOCATED AT 401 75<sup>TH</sup> STREET, QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS R-1, FULL ALCOHOL, ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. SHAH SECONDED.**

**VOTE:**

**Aye:** Mr. Krusenoski, Mr. Shah, Mr. Meta, Ms. Rutledge, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 5:0:0**

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 the applicant before us with regard to their request for a Class “O” liquor license.

**MR. META MOVED TO FIND HONEY JAM CAFÉ, LLC D/B/A HONEY JAM CAFE LOCATED AT 401 75<sup>TH</sup> STREET, QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS O, OUTDOOR LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. KRUSENOSKI SECONDED**

**VOTE:**

**Aye:** Mr. Meta, Mr. Krusenoski, Ms. Rutledge, Mr. Shah, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 5:0:0**

**Lantern Pizza Co. – 1420 Ogden**

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business is Flaming Lantern Pizza Co., LLC d/b/a Lantern Pizza Co. located at 1420 Ogden Avenue. She stated that the applicant is seeking a Class “R-2”, beer & wine only 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.

Chairman Strelau asked the applicant to present its case.

Dan Coudreaut and Kimberly Coudreaut were sworn in by the court reporter. Mr. Coudreaut introduced himself as the President of the corporation and Kimberly as the Managing Director.

Mr. Coudreaut stated that he and his wife have 50 years of combined experience, in the restaurant hospitality industry. He stated that it has been a long standing dream to open a restaurant of their own and wanted to leave a legacy. He stated their vision is to deliver great hospitality with memorable food. He stated that concept is a fast casual artisan/Neapolitan style pizza. He stated that he is a classical trained chef that studied in Naples. He stated that they have a targeted/simplistic menu where everything is made from scratch in house. He stated that they hope to serve national regular, light and micro brewed beers and white, red and sparkling wines by the glass.

Chairman Strelau requested questions from the Commission.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if this was the old Taco Bell location. Mr. Coudreaut replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski asked when they plan to open. Ms. Coudreaut replied early June.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if the fast casual theme is similar to Blaze Pizza where customers indicated what they want on their pizza. Mr. Coudreaut replied no. He stated that it will be fast casual in service mode with no buffet service but where customers will order from the menu, get their drink, get their order ticket, be seated and staff will bring food out. He stated that customers can build a pizza if they like to. He stated that there are seats where customers can sit to see their pizza being hand tossed and made in front of them.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if the beer and wine will be behind the service counter. Mr. Coudreaut replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if they are only selling wine by the glass. Mr. Coudreaut replied yes.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that there are a number of area micro-brewed beer options that local people would like offered. Mr. Coudreaut agreed that they want to embrace the community. He stated that they believe shopping locally is important.

Mr. Krusenoski asked about the outdoor dining. Ms. Coudreaut replied that there is more outdoor dining than there is indoor dining. She stated that there is a fenced in pergola.

Ms. Coudreaut stated that with the fast casual theme, they will have ambassadors who will help customers throughout the dining experience.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that liquor sales will be a small proportion of their sales and stated that if something goes wrong with improper liquor sales, it can be quite costly. He stated that it is up to management to set the culture for employees that under no circumstance should someone underage be served liquor. He stated that they must send the message daily to be careful and diligent when selling liquor.

Ms. Coudreaut noted that they are not interested in being a bar and stated that it will be served as hospitality. She stated that if there is any question about an ID, the sale will be refused. Mr. Coudreaut added that they will card anyone who appears under the age of 30.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that reminders must be given day in and day out so that they never forget the policy. Mr. Coudreaut noted that training is critical. He stated that training is every day and reinforcement of policy is constant.

Mr. Krusenoski noted that they do not have late hours and are selling by the glass and felt that nobody would consume large amount without raising questions.

Mr. Meta asked when a customer comes in, if they place their order at the counter from an employee who will also be selling drinks. Mr. Coudreaut replied yes, typically a manager. Mr. Meta asked if that staff person will be handing the liquor to the customer at that point or will the drink be delivered to the table. Mr. Coudreaut replied that drinks will be given at the counter. Mr. Meta felt comfortable that was a spot of control. Mr. Coudreaut stated that someone 21+ will be on staff.

Mr. Meta stated that the site looks as though they are putting a tremendous investment into the site. He congratulated them for finally making their dream come true and wished them the best.

Ms. Rutledge extended congratulations to them. She felt that their message was clear and consistent and she had no doubts that they would communicate their expectations effectively to employees.

Ms. Rutledge stated that their overview speaks to the character and heart that they are putting into their restaurant.

Ms. Rutledge asked why they talked themselves out of opening for so many years and talked about leaving a legacy and asked them to explain. Mr. Coudreaut replied that they have seen the statistics with restaurants going out of business in a very short period of time and they decided to take a predictable path and worked for stable hotels and restaurants. He stated that while in the midst of Covid, they felt that pizza did well and the global appeal to it was what drove them to this concept. He stated that they focused on a small menu with ingredients made in-house.

Ms. Coudreaut stated that they were finally ready to proceed when Dan left McDonald's and decided to go to Italy for 30 days and studied pizza. She stated that it took 4 years to open, as they originally planned to open before Covid. She noted that three days before Covid, they were ready to sign a lease in Lisle, but walked away after they felt it would be better to own. She stated that they purchased the Downers Grove location.

Mr. Coudreaut stated that concerning the legacy, they want to grow and work with key employees and help them to have a path to ownership.

Mr. Coudreaut stated that they want their employees to smile. He stated that both of them worked at the Four Seasons and learned hospitality. He stated that he learned a lot about training, consistency and shift huddles at McDonald's.

Ms. Coudreaut noted that they are passionate about having young people learn hospitality. She felt youngsters today are looking at their phones rather than looking at people.

Mr. Shah asked that they work with the local high schools for employees. Mr. Coudreaut replied that he got his start as a dishwasher at the age of 14 and want to offer opportunities for future generations.

Mr. Shah asked if they bought the building. The Coudreaut's replied yes.

Chairman Strelau wondered if they were going to offer cooking classes. Mr. Coudreaut replied that he loves to train and have kicked around ideas between 2-5 pm to invite people in to see the processes. He added that he worked pro start which works with high school culinary students and would like to have them come into the restaurant to teach.

Chairman Strelau noted that they are clearly passionate, which will be critical to the business. She stated that it helped her feel confident that they will express the importance of the business running right.

Chairman Strelau noted that the outdoor area may be of issue. She stated that without wait staff going throughout the area to ensure that drinks are not being passed. She cautioned them to monitor customers that pick up their own drinks and take them to the outdoor area.

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, Certificate of Occupancy, insurance, 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-2" liquor license.

**MS. RUTLEDGE MOVED TO FIND FLAMING LANTERN PIZZA CO., LLC D/B/A LANTERN PIZZA CO. LOCATED AT 1420 OGDEN AVENUE, QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS R-2, BEER & WINE ONLY, ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. SHAH SECONDED.**

**VOTE:**

**Aye:** Ms. Rutledge, Mr. Shah, Mr. Meta, Mr. Krusenoski, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 5:0:0**

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. KRUSENOSKI MOVED TO FIND FLAMING LANTERN PIZZA CO. D/B/A LANTERN PIZZA CO. LOCATED AT 1420 OGDEN AVENUE, QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS O, OUTDOOR LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. SHAH SECONDED.**

**VOTE:**

**Aye:** Mr. Krusenoski, Mr. Shah, Ms. Rutledge, Mr. Meta, Chairman Strelau

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 5:0:0**

**Save Max Food & Liquors – 1728 Ogden**

Chairman Strelau stated that the next order of business is Jay Kesari, LLC d/b/a Save Max Food & Liquors located at 1728 Ogden 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.

Mr. Harsh Nanavati and Mr. Abhishek Jariwala were sworn in by the court reporter.

Chairman Strelau asked the applicant to present its case.

Mr. Jariwala stated that they are planning to expand the family business. He stated that they currently operate Dairen Pantry. He stated that they are planning to purchase the existing Save Max Food & Liquors.

Chairman Strelau requested questions from the Commission.

Mr. Shah asked if they have had any issue operating the Darien location. Mr. Jariwala replied no. Mr. Nanavati stated that they are sure to always ask for identification.

Mr. Shah asked if they plan to purchase the Save Max location. Mr. Jariwala replied that they plan to purchase the business but lease the building.

Ms. Rutledge asked for an explanation of the floor layout. Mr. Abhishek replied that customers enter the front door, on the right will have a cigar case and a few coolers. He stated that along the wall is a large walk-in cooler with 20 doors. He stated that down the middle of the store are shelving units and the register counter is at the right. He added that at the rear of the store is a storage garage.

Ms. Rutledge asked if the walk-in cooler was one-way in. Mr. Jariwala replied that it is a two-way entry.

Ms. Rutledge asked if customers will be able to enter and exit the cooler. Mr. Jariwala replied no and stated that the walk-in cooler will be for employees. He stated that customers can access product through the cooler doors.

Mr. Meta asked if the diagram is the current layout of the existing store. Mr. Jariwala replied yes.

Mr. Meta asked Mr. Nanavati and Mr. Jariwala if they were both currently working in the Darien store. Mr. Jariwala replied that both are working there part time.



Mr. Meta stated that he noticed that their BASSET certification was recently issued. He asked if Darien did not require it. They replied no. Mr. Nanavati stated that his father mainly runs the Darien store.

Mr. Meta asked if they have a point of sale system in the store. Mr. Jariwala replied yes.

Mr. Meta asked if that POS system has the capability to scan IDs. Mr. Jariwala replied yes and that they planned to get the same system in Darien for the new store.

Mr. Meta asked if it is currently family that runs the Darien store. Mr. Jariwala replied yes.

Mr. Meta asked if they plan to hire. Mr. Nanavati replied that he has a 9 to 5 job. Mr. Jariwala replied that he will be at the store full time. He stated that they both will mainly operate the store with family working on the side.

Mr. Meta encouraged them to train employees properly and do not assume that just because they hire family or someone that they know that they still need to train.

Mr. Krusenoski asked what the name is of the current business. Mr. Jariwala replied Save Max. Mr. Krusenoski asked if they plan to change the name. Mr. Nanavati replied no and that they could not come up with a good name.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that the layout is similar to that of Liquor 2 Go.

Mr. Krusenoski stated that the fact that they are operating as a liquor store may make it easier on them as they will be hyper vigilant concerning every single transaction. He stated that even though they have a point of sale system, the greatest system can be defeated by an employee who can bypass it if they want to.

Mr. Krusenoski recalled a control buy violation where a family run business got caught selling to a minor when they had a family member man the register. He stated that they cannot just throw someone in if they need help from a family member to staff the store. He stated that they must impose upon any staff to keep vigilant on every single transaction.

Chairman Strelau stated that she recalled a liquor store that just opened fail a control buy on the very first day. She stated that they have a great opportunity to branch out. She stated that it will be necessary to instill into every employee to care.

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, dram shop insurance, satisfactory background checks and receipt of 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 “P-1” liquor license.

**MR. META MOVED TO FIND JAY KESARI, LLC D/B/A SAVE MAX FOOD & LIQUORS LOCATED AT 1728 OGDEN AVENUE, QUALIFIED FOR A CLASS P-1, FULL ALCOHOL, OFF-PREMISE CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE. MR. SHAH SECONDED.**

**VOTE:**

**Aye:** Mr. Meta, Mr. Shah, Mr. Krusenoski, Ms. Rutledge, Mr. Meta, Chairman Strelau  
**Nay:** None  
**Abstain:** None

**MOTION CARRIED: 5:0:0**

**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 was uncertain of an April meeting and would let the Commission know.

**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 past month end report for February.

Ms. Kuchynka advised of the Mayor's intent to issue a license to Beggar's Pizza.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that she included information about outdoor dining regulations that was presented to the Village Council on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Kuchynka advised that the Council approved changes to outdoor dining that resulted from Covid restrictions. She stated that there have been some further updates to the ordinance.

Mr. Krusenoski asked if outdoor dining will be allowed in the street. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes. She stated that outdoor street dining will be allowed if an applicant requests it. She stated that there may be more costs involved versus sidewalk dining as the Village will need to install barricades.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that rules have changed for those who did not have a Class O outdoor liquor license pre-Covid. She stated that four establishments will have to apply for those, which can be expedited. She stated that Orange & Brew, The Fox Tail, Goldfinger and Carnivore and the Queen will be allowed to have the application placed on file for two weeks and barring any objections, staff can issue the outdoor license administratively.

Ms. Kuchynka advised that since Covid restrictions have been lifted, new regulations will apply such that outdoor seating may not exceed indoor seating, cafes will be a bit more regulated and monitored.

Mr. Shah asked if the Goldfinger café was located in their parking lot. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes.

Mr. Shah asked about the Goldfinger Oktoberfest. Ms. Kuchynka replied that a temporary use is required for both the café and the Oktoberfest event, both due to the fact that the space they utilize for the event is actually parking for the business. She stated that festivals, events, parties and activities done outside of the day to day operation need permits and special event liquor licenses.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that license agreements will be drafted for the use of any public property. She stated that public rights-of way will have maintenance, insurance and detailed requirements. She noted that license agreements were not required for the 2020 and 2021 season and were much more relaxed due to Covid.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that the Commission previously discussed removing the enclosure requirement, which has been updated in the Code. She stated that will allow licensees more room and flexibility to devote to the café areas. She stated that the area will need to be monitored and regularly cleaned so that alcohol is not taken off tables by passersby.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that there were not many issues however the license agreement provides for regular cleaning and standards of operation. She noted that ADA requires 4 feet of free and clear sidewalk access for pedestrian traffic.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that most ordinance changes originally dealt with those cafes operating on public property. She stated that Council directed staff to further discuss activities on private property. She noted that the Council will vote on those matters at a future Council meeting. She stated that driveway space use and tents/temporary structures will be addressed. She advised that the Commission can check the status of the Council discussion on the Village's website for more information.

Mr. Krusenoski noted that the original ordinance would not allow cafes to displace any parking spaces. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes. Ms. Didier stated that parking spaces are required per the Zoning Ordinance. She noted that some establishments have more than enough parking than is required. She stated that a formula is used to determine the minimum amount of parking for an establishment. Ms. Kuchynka stated that the downtown is exempt from parking requirements under the Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Krusenoski noted the amount of outdoor seating vs. indoor seating at Lantern Pizza. Ms. Kuchynka noted that outdoor seating cannot exceed indoor seating on public property.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that since Covid restrictions have been lifted, staff discussed the size of cafes. She noted outdoor dining has brought vitality to the downtown, and while wishing to offer cafes, the street continues to be needed for driving purposes and the sidewalks clear for pedestrian access. She stated these regulations set a framework for the operation and maintenance of the cafés.

Mr. Krusenoski noted that use of tents are prohibited. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes and noted that Council tabled the item at the meeting of March 1<sup>st</sup> in order to have the benefit of further discussion on that issue.

Chairman Strelau noted that these are positive changes to the outdoor dining requirements.

Mr. Meta hoped that the music in the park would also continue. Ms. Kuchynka advised that the Village did get a special event liquor license application for the Tuesday night concert series from the Park District and was presented to the Mayor for his approval.

Ms. Kuchynka stated that she expects more special event liquor applications now that Covid restrictions have been lifted. She advised that the month end report will list those requests and approvals each month.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that she received an application for the Wine Walk. Mr. Meta asked if the event will be downtown. Ms. Kuchynka replied yes and noted that the Downtown Management Corporation

puts on the event. She stated that a number of stores participate in the wine walk. She added that participating stores may offer wine. She stated that attendees will get a punch card limited to 15 samples of wine.

Mr. Meta asked if a special event could be obtained for the auto show. Ms. Kuchynka stated that she believed that the Downtown Management Organization stopped sponsoring the car show but she anticipated a temporary use application from the Moose Lodge. Ms. Kuchynka stated that cafes are now taking up spaces on the street where car show attendees once parked.

Mr. Meta asked what if the car show event could be relocated to the new commuter lot. Ms. Kuchynka replied that she believed the Moose would host the event in Lot A north of the tracks which is in front of their lodge on Warren Avenue.

Ms. Kuchynka noted that while the car show requested a liquor license, they only operated under a temporary use permit.

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

There were none.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Concluding business for the evening, Chairman Strelau called for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Krusenoski moved to adjourn the March 3, 2022 meeting. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:45 p.m.