

**MINUTES FOR
LIQUOR AUTHORITY MEETING**

**CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO
7500 West 29th Avenue, Municipal Building**

January 22, 2015

Chair Shaver called the Liquor Authority Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Liquor Authority Members present:

John Miks
Paul Shaver
Anthony Davia
Claudia Worth
Carolyn Peterson

Liquor Authority Members absent:

Robert Alldredge
Kent Davis

Also present: Deputy City Clerk Kelly Stevens; City Attorney Carmen Beery; staff; interested citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 8, 2015

Motion by Carolyn Peterson to approve the minutes of January 8, 2015: seconded by Anthony Davia; carried 4-0 Claudia Worth Abstained

Item 1. Application for New Hotel/Restaurant liquor license, B & C Enterprises, LLC dba Mighty Joe's Kitchen, 10160 West 50th Avenue, Unit 5, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

Deputy Stevens introduced the item and Max Scott, Oedipus, Inc. and Cynthia Sarmiento, applicant and owner of Mighty Joe's.

Chair Shaver swore in Ms. Sarmiento and Mr. Scott.

Max Scott spoke about Oedipus, Inc. and stated that Wheat Ridge has wonderful reputation as a good place for businesses. He will incorporate his testimony from past hearings as to the methods Oedipus uses to conduct the surveys.

Survey was conducted in a one-mile radius with the applicant business at center. Both residences and businesses were surveyed.

95% of those surveyed were in favor of issuance of new liquor license. The total of signatures in favor of issuance of the new liquor license goes up to 96% in favor if non-business related objections are eliminated

Cynthia Sarmiento spoke about her business. She started with food truck in Denver in January, 2013, but wanted a permanent location.

The name, Mighty Joe's comes from her son's middle name because it is a family-based business. Her son's face is in the logo. Her full intention is for a family oriented business – the fast-casual approach for dining. They will serve all-authentic recipes and family creations with some Latin-infusion dishes. The restaurant will have an extensive kids menu to mimic adult menu – they want to make healthier, quality kids food as well as food for adults.

Ms. Sarmiento stated she wants to serve mostly beer and wine to compliment the food menu. Alcohol service will not be the primary focus of business. There won't be a bar – just alcohol to accent food. She estimates approximately 5% of her profits to come from bar sales. She feels she needs alcohol service to keep competitive in local market.

Her intention is to be open for lunch & dinner Tuesday through Friday and will have extended hours Saturday and brunch only on Sunday. They may expand into breakfast service later on with the expanding business.

Ms. Sarmiento stated she will have a small staff – mostly kitchen and counter. There will be five people employed - mostly family & friends. She is owner/manager and will be on site most times the restaurant is open. All staff will be trained in alcohol safety procedures. 60% of staff is on board now. Before opening, all will be hired and trained.

Claudia Worth asked if they will offer gluten free options on the menu and what the hours of service would be.

Ms. Sarmiento stated they will have small gluten free and vegetarian menu and will be open 10am to 8pm. They are still under construction and are shooting for March 8th opening.

Authority Member Worth inquired why they aren't going into and already established space.

Ms. Sarmiento stated they liked the new space and location and liked the opportunity to be in Wheat Ridge. She was pleased with Wheat Ridge staff and the city plans to work with small businesses.

Carolyn Peterson asked where, exactly is restaurant located.

Ms. Sarmiento stated they are in the same building as Three Margaritas, on the south side.

John Miks asked if the kitchen was already finished, and, if not, will the \$42,000 listed on the applicant's financial disclosure be enough to start up the business.

Ms. Sarmiento stated she had negotiated the lease with the landlord. The landlord is paying for the kitchen and to remodel the space. She just pays for signage, advertisement, and specialized equipment. Her primary intent is to serve mostly beer & wine with her food. She may want to have cocktails, but mostly beer and wine in pre-packaged containers.

Chair Shaver inquired if she will keep the food truck business as well.

Ms. Sarmiento stated she sold the food truck to concentrate on her new business.

Motion by John Miks to approve the application for New Hotel/Restaurant liquor license, B & C Enterprises, LLC dba Mighty Joe's Kitchen, 10160 West 50th Avenue, Unit 5, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 on the basis of the following findings:

1. The Notice of Public Hearing to be Held by the Liquor Authority concerning the subject application was published in the Wheat Ridge Transcript on January 8, 2015. The premises were posted on January 5, 2015. The Notice of Public Hearing was provided in the manner required by law.
2. The proper fees have been remitted to the City of Wheat Ridge.
3. The applicant is in legal possession of the property by virtue of a lease dated November 6, 2014.
4. The property is in compliance with the zoning ordinances, rules, and regulations of the City.
5. Cynthia Sarmiento is 100% owner of this business. Ms. Sarmiento is over 21 years of age. She has submitted her fingerprints to the Wheat Ridge Police Department and a background investigation has been conducted. The Police Department has no concerns about Ms. Sarmiento and recommends her application move forward.
6. The relevant neighborhood under consideration is described as being within a 1-mile circumference of 10160 W. 50th Avenue, Unit 5.
7. The Needs & Desires Survey conducted by Oedipus, Inc. is in support of granting this license. This is shown by the petitions bearing 181 favoring issuance and 9 signatures opposing issuance.

Seconded by Claudia Worth; carried 5-0.

CITY CLERK'S MATTERS

None

CITY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS

None

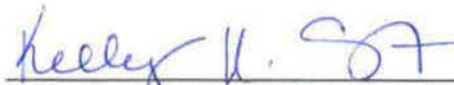
POLICE DEPARTMENT MATTERS

None

LIQUOR AUTHORITY MEMBERS MATTERS

None

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.



Kelly K. Stevens, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED BY LIQUOR AUTHORITY ON _____ BY A VOTE OF 4 TO 0



Paul Shaver, Chair