

**MINUTES FOR
LIQUOR AUTHORITY MEETING**

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

January 28, 2016

Vice-Chair Davia called the Liquor Authority Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Liquor Authority Members present:

Robert Alldredge
Paul Shaver
Carolyn Peterson
Claudia Worth
Elizabeth Nazarene
Bruce McIntyre
Anthony Davia

Liquor Authority Members absent: John Miks, Excused

Also present: Deputy City Clerk Kelly Stevens; City Attorney Joe Rivera; Police Officer Steve Berkowitz; staff; interested citizens.

Deputy Stevens explained that late yesterday afternoon, an application for a renewal of a tastings permit was brought to the office and, with the Authority's permission; she would like to add it as Item #2.

Motion by Claudia Worth to approve Ms. Stevens' request and add Item #2 to the agenda; Seconded by Paul Shaver; carried 7-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 10, 2015

Motion by Carolyn Peterson to approve the minutes of August 10, 2015; seconded by Claudia Worth; carried 7-0.

Item 1. Application for New Beer and Wine License – Infinitus, Inc. dba iPie, 5807 W. 38th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, 80212

Deputy Stevens introduced the item and Tina Scott of Oedipus, Inc.

Vice Chair Davia swore in Ms. Scott.

Ms. Scott described the survey area and the petition process. The survey results show over 99% in favor of issuance of the new license.

Vice Chair Davia asked why there was a need for a new survey when there have been liquor licensed businesses at this location in the past.

Officer Berkowitz explained it was part of the process for any new liquor applicant.

Deputy Stevens introduced the applicants Katherine Crouse and Peter Crouse.

Vice Chair Davia swore in Ms. Crouse and Mr. Crouse

Robert Alldredge asked about the background checks on the application. He wanted to know what CoCourts and COPLINK were.

Officer Berkowitz stated that CoCourts checked to see what contact any applicant has with any Colorado court and COPLINK uses systems from all Colorado police departments to do a comprehensive background check on an applicant.

Mr. Alldredge also wanted clarification on the memo about the background checks from Chief Brennan. It says "forward to Liquor Authority" not "approved."

Officer Berkowitz explained that the Police Department does not approve applicants, they just make a recommendation whether the application is good and should be moved on to the Liquor Authority. Basically, it means they passed.

Mr. Alldredge stated he had been to iPie for breakfast and it was good pizza.

Carolyn Peterson asked if this was the only location the applicants had.

Ms. Crouse answered that there were two other restaurants one in Broomfield and one at Auraria.

Ms. Peterson complimented the applicants on their community service.

Officer Berkowitz stated that iPie supports National Night Out.

Mr. Crouse explained that if the application is approved, their next step is to go to zoning and get approval to extend their patio for outdoor service in good weather. He stated this was their flagship store and they are excited to expand. They want to eventually be open seven days a week and serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They will also be donating to schools and non-profits once a month.

Claudia Worth interjected that this business has also supported the STEM program at Wheat Rudge High School, and she appreciates this.

Ms. Peterson asked if their other stores have Liquor Licenses.

Mr. Crouse stated they both did.

Motion by Robert Alldredge to approve the application for New Beer and Wine License – Infinitus, Inc. dba iPie, 5807 W. 38th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, 80212, for the following reasons:

1. Public Notice of the hearing on the Application was published and posted on the property as required by Colorado law;
2. The applicant is qualified to obtain a liquor license pursuant to C.R.S. Section 12-47-307;
3. The premises is in a location eligible to conduct the proposed liquor licensed business pursuant to C.R.S. Section 12-47-313 and the zoning laws of the City;
4. The applicant is entitled to possession of the premises for which the application is made;
5. The neighborhood under consideration is considered to be within a one-mile circumference around the proposed licensed premises;
6. The inhabitants of the neighborhood desire an additional establishment that serves liquor;
7. The needs of the neighborhood are not met by the existing outlets."

Seconded by Paul Shaver; carried 7-0

Mr. Crouse thanked the Authority and stated it is his hope that his increased business will spur more business in the area

Mr. Alldredge asked why the restaurant opens later on Sundays.

Mr. Crouse answered that he is opening late on Sundays for now, but they may change this later when they have more employees. His was one of the first restaurants in the nation to prepare the food in front of the customers. Later, other businesses, like Chipotle and Qdoba came in and copied their style. It is difficult to entrepreneur new concepts (like pizza for breakfast) and they want to take it step by step. Their dream is to have 5,000 stores by the time he's 80 years old.

Mr. Crouse also explained the Scholartip program. With this program, half of tips received go to the employees and half of the tips go into a scholarship fund. They will be issuing their first \$20,000 of scholarships this spring. They have a committee that will award ten scholarships of \$2,000 apiece. They want to attach the City of Wheat Ridge with their efforts in both business and charity since Wheat Ridge has been so good to them. He wants to create a long-term business environment here and have it survive and continue to thrive and to give back to the community.

Item 2. Renewal of Tastings Permit – 7605 Wine & Spirits, Inc. dba Vern's Liquors and Wine, 7605 W. 44th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80003

Deputy Stevens introduced the item.

Deputy Stevens explained that Mr. Sau, the owner of Vern's has been hosting tastings of some beverages every Friday evening from 5pm to 7pm since he purchased the establishment in 2014. He would like to renew his tastings permit for another year.

Officer Berkowitz explained that tastings at liquor stores are usually run by sales representatives of different wine and liquor companies.

Motion by Paul Shaver to approve the renewal of the tastings permit for 7605 Wine & Spirits, Inc. dba Vern's Liquors and Wine, 7605 W. 44th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80003; seconded by Claudia Worth; carried 7-0

CITY CLERK'S MATTERS

Deputy Stevens stated she has been working on several Liquor matters not required to be brought before the Authority.

- Transfer of Ownership from Taverns 44th Avenue Grill to Busty G's 44th Avenue Grill. As the new owner, Melissa Shaune Gregory passed her background checks with flying colors; the application for transfer was processed in-house according to Liquor Authority Resolution 01-2015. A Temporary Liquor License was issued and the application is currently being reviewed by State Liquor.
- Name changes: El Jaliscience is changing to El Aguascalientes and Qdoba Mexican Grill had a change in corporate names.
- Deputy Stevens is processing Special Event Permits for Colorado Golden Gloves, Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Sons of Italy, and Fiori d' Italia for various special events in the coming months.

CITY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Officer Berkowitz stated that he had attended a conference last summer for international liquor investigators. It was very informative and he made some good contacts in the state and all over the world. Because of his new state contacts, State Liquor is working with him to reignite the liquor inspection program. At the last round of inspections in October, there were a few problems – all warnings. Most of the issues were with establishments that had mostly gambling devices (push machines). All of them were removed. There were a couple of other places that didn't meet cleanliness standards.

LIQUOR AUTHORITY MEMBERS MATTERS

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Kelly K. Stevens, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED BY LIQUOR AUTHORITY ON FEBRUARY 11, 2016 BY A VOTE OF
____ TO ____


Anthony Davia, Vice-Chair