

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT & APPEALS

Council Chambers

April 9, 2014

Present: Charles Block, Mike Pulis, Tim Wondra, Donna Amandus
Absent: Tiffany Siefken, Council Liaison Chris Greenwald
Staff: Doug Krogmeier, Emily Britton,
Visitors: Lori Illner

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Charles Block. A quorum was declared with four members present.

Minutes from the April 9, 2014 meeting were approved as written on a motion by Tim Wondra; seconded by Mike Pulis. Approval was unanimous.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS: none

Case File # 14-05: Special Use Permit to allow on premise consumption of alcohol including room service for Lori Illner/Jeff McKinzie (owner) operated by Romero's (Ramon Romero) at 707/709 Avenue H (formerly Kingsley/Alphas).

Staff reviewed case report.

Block opened public hearing at 5:34pm.

Lori Illner spoke in favor, and explained that originally they debated about who would need the license (the owner or operator of Romero's), but the operators of Romero's decided to run the bar so it made sense to include on that license. Amandus questioned the expected opening date, to which Illner answered hopefully in the next ten days. She went onto explain the restaurant would include some fine dining with steaks and barbeque on the menu. Ramon Romero has been a chef in fine dining in the past and makes everything fresh so she expects customers will appreciate having him back in town. Amandus asked if the Kingsley is currently operating, and Illner confirmed that it is open for public as a sort of "soft opening" but they will need more staff before operating at full capacity soon. She mentioned there has recently been more foot traffic and they are planning a meet-and-greet May 15th for the public to come in and take a look around. She explained they would like to hold community gatherings and events in their banquet room, so with the allowance of alcohol on the premise they would be able to accommodate those things as well. She also mentioned a tunnel room underneath the building that they would like to convert and use as a wine cellar. Additionally they are working with the state of Iowa toward the allowance of importing fine wines. She said the potential wine cellar is a good sized room which doesn't seem to leak or have any water damage at this time.

Block closed the public hearing at 5:40pm.

Mike Pulis motioned, seconded by Donna Amandus, to approve the Special Use Permit to allow on premise consumption of alcohol including room service for Lori Illner/Jeff McKinzie (owner) operated by Romero's (Ramon Romero) at 707/709 Ave H (formerly Kingsley/Alphas).

Vote: 4-yes, 0-no. Motion passed.

Old Business: none

Other/New Business: none

Charles Block made a motion, seconded by Mike Pulis, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 4-yes, 0-no.

Meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.

Charles Block, Chairperson