

**LIQUOR LICENSING & REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN**  
**VILLAGE HALL AUDITORIUM**  
**9446 RAYMOND AVENUE OAK LAWN IL 60453**  
**Meeting Minutes #2021-03 (03-24-21)**

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**I. ROLL CALL:** Meeting called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Chairperson: Mayor Sandra Bury

Members: Cheryl Daly                      Jack Hopkins  
Larry Daly                              Chuck Miller  
Tom Dematteo                      Terry O'Reilly  
Jan Goetz

Staff: Tom Nelligan, Village Attorney  
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

*Also present: Trustee Terry Vorderer, 4<sup>th</sup> District*

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Bury.

**III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

*A motion was made by Member Miller to approve the prior Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2021 #2021-2 and was seconded by Member O'Reilly.*

Roll call: O'Reilly, yes; Miller, yes; Hopkins, yes; Goetz, abstain; Dematteo, yes; Daly, L., abstain; Daly, C., yes.

Motion to approve passes: 5-0-2.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Liquor License Request for Lucky Burrito (Class H):

*Mrs. Maria Villegas, 6619 West 95<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois.*

The petitioner explained that she has been serving Oak Lawn for the last 16 years. She said a lot of her customers have recently requested margaritas or beer and she feels it would be a nice menu option. Mayor Bury asked how much seating she has at the restaurant. The petitioner responded that there are approximately 40 seats but they are only at 25% capacity because of the pandemic.

Member Miller said the restaurant does not have a bar so the alcohol will be served behind the counter. The petitioner said that is correct. Member O'Reilly asked the petitioner if she plans to sell beer, wine, and margaritas. The petitioner responded yes. She said she feels it will mostly be beer and margaritas.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner what her favorite item is on her menu. The petitioner responded "tacos".

*A motion was made by Member L. Daly to recommend for Village Board approval the Liquor License Request for Lucky Burrito (Class H). The motion was seconded by Member Miller.*

Roll call: C. Daly, yes; L. Daly, yes; T. Dematteo, yes; J. Goetz, yes; J. Hopkins, yes; C. Miller, yes; T. O'Reilly, yes.

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

b. Liquor License Request for Cork and Bean (Class IV and N):

*Mrs. Eileen Desmond, 8747 Moody Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois.*

The petitioner explained her request for a liquor license to open a new business called Cork & Bean. She mentioned that her daughter prepared a brief slide show to show to the Commissioners. The petitioner showed the slide show and explained her business model of Coffee and Cocktails. She also described the proposed layout of the business.

Mayor Bury asked if the windows at the front will open. The petitioner responded yes and said it will be an open air patio. The petitioner explained that the building is set back further than the other buildings on the block. She said the patio will be 5' from the sidewalk and will have a railing. The petitioner added that pedestrians will not be able to enter the business from 95<sup>th</sup> Street. Member Hopkins asked the petitioner to clarify that patrons cannot enter the drinking area from 95<sup>th</sup> Street. The petitioner replied that is correct.

The petitioner introduced her coffee consultant, Renee, who described that the menu will be contracted with a wholesale kitchen that will deliver every day or every other day. She said, as an example, salads will be premade along with other bakery items. The petitioner said they may have a panini press but no equipment that would warrant a suppression system. The petitioner said in the evening they will promote charcuterie boards, cheese boards, pub mix, and prepackaged items.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner about clientele. The petitioner said she imagines it will be an older crowd. The petitioner feels that Moms may come for coffee after they drop their kids off at school. Renee mentioned the coffee menu will include a batch brewer for brewed coffee, Chai teas, Smoothies, Hot Tea, Iced Tea, and they will also have an Espresso machine. Renee said they will make sure to have other options such as Roasting with their brewing equipment.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner about the primary liquor product(s). The petitioner responded that she plans to have bottles of wine and offer martinis. She said she will not offer draft or bottled beer. The petitioner said she will have local craft beers and plans to work with a liquor distributor.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner if she plans for entertainment. Renee commented that it is a possibility to have small Acoustic entertainment on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner if she has any other establishments. The petitioner replied no. Renee said she has been a consultant for other establishments but not in this area. Renee gave a brief summary of the Coffee & Cocktails concept. She said it is an Artisan feel product but after 4:00 p.m. who wants coffee? She said Coffee and Cocktails are becoming a national trend. She mentioned that some Starbuck's stores are offering wine.

Member L. Daly asked the hours of operation. The petitioner responded that they plan to be open from 7:00 a.m. – midnight. Member L. Daly asked the sq. footage of the building. The petitioner responded 2,000 sq. feet.

Mayor Bury asked Renee if she consults for other businesses outside of coffee. Renee responded that she has consulted with other restaurants.

Members C. Daly and J. Goetz commented that it seems like a great idea.

Renee mentioned the plans for a fireplace and vignette seating around the fireplace. Mayor Bury asked about the Meeting Room as shown on the site plan. Renee explained the Meeting Room area will have a large table for at least 6 people and it will include a television for presentations. Renee said the room will be separated by glass walls and a glass door.

Member L. Daly asked about video gaming. The petitioner explained the high cost of rent and taxes and said the intentions for gaming is to help cover those costs. Member O'Reilly asked if gaming will be at the back and separated by a wall on all 3 sides. The petitioner responded yes.

Member O'Reilly asked about parking. The petitioner explained that there are 7 parking spaces on site at the rear. She said there is also street parking at 95<sup>th</sup> and Brandt and that the Municipal lot offers 24-25 parking spaces.

Mayor Bury expressed that it is a nice concept and encouraged the petitioner to make the menu special. Renee said the night time menu will include deli items and said that their food distributor has kits for the charcuterie boards. She added that the cheese boards will include upmarket cheese.

Member O'Reilly expressed that it is great to bring jobs to Oak Lawn. He asked how many employees per shift. The petitioner said she anticipates no more than 3 employees per shift. She said if traffic warrants it, they will increase staff and said, "you don't know what you don't know". The petitioner said there will not be table service. She explained that customers will order at the counter.

Trustee Vorderer commented that the concept is exciting and unique and he understands that it is made possible by video gaming. Trustee Vorderer expressed that he has concerns about parking but he does not feel it is a deal breaker.

Mayor Bury asked Renee what is unique about her coffee. Renee responded that they only purchase women produced coffee or coffee only grown by women.

Member Miller asked if the restaurant will offer take out coffee. Renee responded absolutely. She said most of the ceramic mugs will be put away until COVID ends.

Member Hopkins expressed that is an exciting venture. He mentioned that his daughter works at the hair salon, Style 95, down the block and he feels that Cork & Bean will have a nice following.

Member O'Reilly expressed that the outside concept is great for 95<sup>th</sup> Street.

*A motion was made by Member C. Daly to recommend Village Board approval for Cork and Bean (Class IV & N). The motion was seconded by Member Goetz.*

Roll call: O'Reilly, yes; Miller, yes; Hopkins, yes; Goetz, yes; Dematteo, yes; Daly, L., yes; Daly, C., yes.

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

c. Liquor License Request for Birdies Sports Bar & Grill (Class IV & N):

*Mr. James Gorney, 4029 Dean Drive, Oak Lawn, Illinois.*

Mr. Gorney explained his Sports Bar & Grill establishment that will include 7 golf simulators that allow for indoor golfing in a 300 sq. foot area. He explained that customers hit the ball against a projector screen and the simulator calculates speed.

Mayor Bury asked about the menu. The petitioner said he will have an upper class menu similar to the menu at his bar in Alsip, Deuce's. He expressed it is very good bar food.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner if he is doing anything special related to liquor. The petitioner responded that he will have golf named drinks such as the Arnold Palmer.

Member Miller asked if there will be a full service kitchen. He also asked about seating. The petitioner said that he will have a full service kitchen. He said he will have approximately 30 seats around the bar and hopes to have at least 50 tables which will allow for 110-120 additional seats.

Member C. Daly asked the square footage. The petitioner responded 6,800 square feet. He indicated that his business is west of Reilly's Daughter.

Member Hopkins asked if a demise wall will be between the spaces or will he have to take it out. The petitioner said that the wall has already been removed and the space is open. Member O'Reilly said it appears to be an extensive rebuild. The petitioner said he submitted plans to the Building Department and hopes to open in August or September at the latest.

Mayor Bury asked the petitioner if he has golf simulators in his other business. The petitioner responded no and mentioned that he knows of a location in Orland Park. Member Miller asked if he will rent golf clubs to customers. The petitioner said most people will bring their own clubs but he will have clubs available at no cost.

Member Dematteo commented that he has been at the petitioner's other location and said the food is excellent. He said it is hard to describe but the food is in fact higher end.

Trustee Vorderer asked about the gaming machines. The petitioner responded that the gaming will be in a separate room. Member Hopkins asked if the gaming machines will be behind a wall. The petitioner responded yes.

Member C. Daly commented that the proposed business has a nice concept.

Trustee Vorderer encouraged the petitioner to reach out to the area Men's Clubs and schools. The petitioner said he plans to do so and mentioned that he will also stream high school sports' games. Mayor Bury expressed that she loves the concept.

*A motion was made by L. Daly to recommend Village Board approval for Birdies Sports Bar & Grill (Class IV & N). The motion was seconded by Member Dematteo.*

Roll call: C. Daly, yes; L. Daly, yes; T. Dematteo, yes; J. Goetz, yes; J. Hopkins, yes; C. Miller, yes; T. O'Reilly, yes.

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

d. Liquor License Request for Hog Wild (Class FV):

*Mr. Richard Wagner, 17330 Arrowhead Terrace, Oak Forest, Illinois.*

Mayor Bury expressed her excitement of Hog Wild coming to Oak Lawn. Mr. Wagner said it will be a duplicate of the Midlothian location and include the same menu with family specials. He mentioned that the Oak Lawn location will be the first non-family franchise.

The petitioner said he is going into the former medical center location at 111<sup>th</sup> & Pulaski. He said he initially carved out 3,500 sq. ft. but recently took on an additional 1,800 sq. ft. Mayor Bury asked the petitioner if he will add seating. The petitioner responded yes. Mayor Bury asked if it will be a sit down restaurant. The petitioner responded yes. The petitioner said there will not be a bar in the restaurant. Mayor Bury asked the petitioner what Hog Wild is most famous for; the petitioner replied the bone-in pork chops. Mayor Bury asked about the gaming terminals. The petitioner replied that the gaming terminals will be separate from the restaurant and off on its own. Member Miller asked the number of dining patrons. The petitioner replied over 100. He mentioned that Midlothian sits exactly 151. The petitioner said the restaurant is at least 30% carry out.

Trustee Vorderer asked how many employees. The petitioner replied 25. Trustee Vorderer asked the petitioner if he feels parking may be an issue. The petitioner said he has been at the center several times and he feels there is a lot of vacancy. The petitioner expressed that his hours of operation should not conflict with the other tenants. He said they will be open at 10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. He said Birdies and Reilly's Daughter will be busier in late evening. The petitioner said he feels the synergy of parking will work. The petitioner mentioned that the biggest problem he found looking for space in Oak Lawn was parking. He said he feels this property will work well. Mayor Bury expressed to the petitioner that she appreciates his investment in Oak Lawn.

**V. REPORTS:**

- a. Liquor Reports: *None.*
- b. Current Gaming Revenue: Mayor Bury expressed that the gaming revenue has surged. D. Adasiak said last month's revenue was a record high.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*None.*

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Bury expressed to the Commissioners how proud she is of this Board. She expressed appreciation to each Member and said it is an honor to know all of them.

Trustee Vorderer congratulated the Mayor and said that her concept of this Board was a wonderful idea.

*A motion to adjourn was made by Member Miller and seconded by Member O'Reilly.*

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye. All opposed, none.

Motion to adjourn passes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.