



DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT BOARD

October 13, 2015

A special meeting of the City of Petoskey Downtown Management Board was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M., and the following were

Present: Robin Bennett
Doug Buck
David Carlson
William J. Fraser, Mayor
James M. Reid Jr., Vice Chairperson
Jennifer Shorter
S. Reginald Smith

Absent: Jason Keiswetter and Lawrence Rochon, Chairperson

Also in attendance were the Downtown Director Becky Goodman and City Manager Robert Straebel.

Vice Chairperson Reid welcomed new Board member Robin Bennett.

Recommend BRKP Cigar Group, LLC
for a Redevelopment Liquor License

The Downtown Director reviewed that the Board reviewed an application for a Redevelopment Liquor License from BRKP Cigar Group, LLC, for 446 East Mitchell Street at its August 18, 2015 meeting for the purpose of making a recommendation for approval to City Council. The DMB approved recommending the granting of the license to Council at that meeting with the provision that all taxes and fees owed by the property owner be brought current within 30 days. To date, the property owner of 446 East Mitchell Street has not provided any payment to the City.

Bill Tribble, BRKP Cigar Group, LLC, principal, selected a different location, 320 East Lake Street, Unit 2, for his business and requested the DMB to consider a recommendation to City Council to approve the application. The property owner of the new location has paid all taxes and assessments.

Mr. Tribble reviewed that the new location was a larger space, had more opportunities to develop and hopes to open by May 1, 2016.

Board members inquired on how signage would be displayed; if the only access to the building was via the alley; if there was room for trash receptacles; if discussions had been made with the landlord concerning rent since the lease was blank; if the applicant had experience in this type of business; if deliveries would occur in the alley; inquiries on the exterior building plans; and if one door would be up to code regulations. Board members also discussed recommending to the City Manager to make Howard alley exit a "no in or out" for delivery vehicles and expressed the need to support the economic development trade-off adding a new mix to downtown vs. potential health issues.

Vice Chairperson Reid asked for public comments and heard inquiries on proposed hours of operation; concerns with how the smoke will be vented so it does not impact surrounding businesses; if there were any restrictions on distance between the number of licenses issued; and heard from those opposed to approving the license.

Upon motion made by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Smith to recommend to City Council a Redevelopment Liquor License to BRKP Cigar Group, LLC, 320 East Lake Street, Unit 2.

Said motion was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Bennett, Buck, Carlson, Fraser, Reid, Shorter, Smith (7)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Keiswetter, Rochon (2)

There being no further business to come before the Downtown Management Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.