

Larson, Kathryn (CI-StPaul)

From: Larson, Kathryn (CI-StPaul)
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 6:46 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing
Subject: Fw: tiffanys

From: Blake Montpetit <bmontpetit17@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 3:19:37 PM
To: Larson, Kathryn (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Fwd: final

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Blake Montpetit <bmontpetit17@gmail.com>
Date: December 7, 2017 at 11:14:53 AM CST
To: Blake Montpetit <bmontpetit17@gmail.com>
Subject: final

Hello my name is Blake Montpetit owner of Tiffany Sports Lounge.

I'm here today to ask the legislative hearing to grant my interior and exterior liquor license expansion. My family and I have owned and operated Tiffs since 1971 in the highland park neighborhood. For almost 50 years the highland community has been gracious to us, not only as a family, but as a business. Tiffs is not just a restaurant, its a gathering place for our neighbors and families.

This is not just a business to me, it has been a vehicle for give back to the community we serve. I have a "never say no" policy when it comes to gift card donations for any benefit or cause that walks through the doors. I was fortunate enough to serve on the Highland Business Association for 4 years, and was elected its Vice President, and President, each for 1 year terms. I was nominated and won business person of the year in ward 5 by the highland district council in 2012`. I have chaired and ran Highland Fest from 2006 to 2010 volunteering each year. I'm also an active member of Serving The Troops, an organization that has served over 90k steak dinners over seas to MN national guard. I'm a founding member of Highland Park Turkey trot, that in 5 short years has raised tens of thousands of dollars for Highland Catholic School, and the Highland Friendship Club. Each year the morning of Turkey Trot Tiffs donates over 500 breakfasts to its participants.

Giving Tiffs the ability to expand benefits the neighborhood in several ways. Our business will have handicap restrooms, and will employ an additional 12-18 people, bringing our staff total to upwards of 50. We will be adding additional security cameras with the suggestion of Srgt. Stanway of the St Paul Police department. Tiff's outdoor seating is vital, to our neighbors, and their pets. They love it, and spend summer nights enjoying the warm weather dining out.

With that said, I've read through all of Mr Devine's complaints, and they all seem solvable with communication. Mr. Devine nor the manager of Half Price Books have ever brought these issues to my attention. And most recently, after reading he was not supportive of our outdoor seating, I reached to understand why, with no response to my calls or email.

Today's hearing is an opportunity for all parties involved to be part of a solution. My staff and I can do a better job of cleaning the surrounding areas on Thursday - Saturday nights at close. If any trash is left during the week I'm available along with my management team via phone. My availability, and quick response to concerns, has been highlighted in the letters in support of Tiff's regarding this legislative hearing. In order for Highland Park to be a viable place for all types of business, we need to work together as a community of them.

Tiffany's has been opened since 1966 and my family has owned it since 1971. We have employed thousands of people, donated time, money, and our facility, to numerous neighborhood causes. I'm asking this body to please support our indoor and outdoor seating and expansion to allow us to continue these efforts.