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SummitHillAssociation.org

July 12, 2019

To: Legislative Hearing Officer, LH-Licensing@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Kris Schweinler, DSI Inspector, Kristina.schweinler@ci.stpaul.mn.us
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CC: Rebecca Noecker, City Council, Ward 2 Office
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RE: Revised letter in support of application for outdoor liquor service, Iron Ranger, 1085 Grand Avenue, Saint Paul

During April and May of 2019, the Summit Hill Association held three public meetings regarding the application from the Iron Ranger for an outdoor liquor license. A total of six neighbors who live near the business appeared at the three meetings and expressed general support for the Iron Ranger business and other small businesses on Grand Ave. SHA received no written comments or phone calls regarding the Iron Ranger's application.

On Thursday, June 13, the **Summit Hill Association Board voted to support the Iron Ranger's application for outdoor liquor service** (6 votes favor). The motion approved by the SHA Board specified that the letter of support sent to the City of Saint Paul also include the concerns expressed by neighbors in order to ensure those concerns became part of public record.

The neighbors' concerns are that the proposed late hours and outdoor liquor license:

- Will create noise that will be heard in their homes, especially after 9:00pm;
- Will generate light pollution that will be visible from their homes; and
- May have patrons lingering in the parking lot and alley area after hours, creating a security concern and/or noise problem.

(over, please)

SHA would like to note following:

- SHA recommends that Tom Forti, the owner, organize a meeting with the neighbors north of his property to formally address their concerns and discuss possible accommodations;
- Mr. Forti expressed assurances that he is on-site nearly every day, that he wants to be a good business neighbor to ensure the longevity of his business, and that he will work with the neighbors to address any complaints that arise after the patio is opened;
- The liquor license renews annually so neighbors will have access to timely recourse if their concerns and complaints are not addressed; and
- Should neighbors have complaints after the patio opens, they may reach out to SHA for advice regarding which City entity can best address their concerns.

Furthermore, we understand that since the submission of our original letter, dated June 17, the applicant has agreed to a 10:00pm closing in consideration of the neighbors' request. We support the solution as negotiated between the Iron Ranger and the neighbors and endorse the 10:00pm closing time.

Thank you for taking time to consider our input.

Regards,

Hayden Howland, President

Monica Haas, Executive Director