

**From:** [Michael Lewis](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul\\_LH-Licensing](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on License Number 20210001847  
**Date:** Friday, December 3, 2021 3:32:04 PM

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To: Legislative Hearing Officer, St. Paul Department of Safety and Inspections.

As neighboring property owners who share the alley with the proposed restaurant at 1332 Grand Avenue, we have concerns about the requested licensing and use of the premises. We have no problem with the proposal to operate a restaurant on the premises. The proposed midnight closing time for the restaurant is likewise unobjectionable, as it is consistent with the other restaurants in the immediate vicinity.

The proposal includes two items that raise concerns: 1) use of a portion of the alley as a patio, and 2) amplified music. The concerns for both of these items stem from the same potential problem, excessive noise. As we have decades-long experience with living along the alley and the restaurants in our area, we are very familiar with the transmission of sound occurring there. As there are walls on three sides of that portion of the alley, any sound waves in that location are reflected off all the brick surfaces and directed out toward the alley and neighboring residences.

We have raised our concerns with the license applicant and we understand the current proposal will fence in the patio and keep doors and windows opening onto the alley shut as much as possible. While this may mitigate some of the sound generated, it would be helpful to put some form of closing time for patio service in the license. We propose 9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, 11:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday. This is after the traditional dinner hour and should not work a hardship on the restaurant's business.

Our greatest concern is with the potential for amplified music on the patio. As the area of the patio is very small, there is no need for amplification for musicians to be heard. Our recent experience with an unpermitted event inside the warehouse space adjacent to the applicant's premises demonstrated that amplified music will leave occupants of the neighboring properties hearing everything coming out of the speakers outdoors on the licensed premises. We urge that any grant of a license be conditioned on music on the patio being unamplified and concluding at a reasonable hour.

From our experiences with other restaurants in the vicinity, we also suggest the following:

- a) Customer ingress and egress for the patio be through the Grand Avenue entrance to the restaurant, with the patio gate reserved for staff and emergency use.

- b) Dumpster placement must minimize traffic obstruction.
- c) No early morning or late night disposing of bottles.
- d) Encourage the licensee to be open to changing business operations based on results and feedback from neighbors.

In summary, we have no objection to the granting of a restaurant license, subject to the conditions set out above. We oppose allowing exterior amplified music.

Sincerely,

Michael Lewis and Sonia Feder-Lewis - 1335 Lincoln Avenue – 651-690-2539

Gary Ballman

David Coyne - 651-698-5467

Greg Steiner –

Christine Van Dongen -