

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF ROBERT ANTHONY	*	
MEAD AND KEITH ANDREW WATSON	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ON BEHALF OF KWATSON5, LLC, t/a	*	
DANDELION BAKERY BISTRO, FOR A	*	
CLASS B BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR	*	FOR
7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE	*	
	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
	*	
	*	Case No.: 16-58
	*	

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### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Board of License Commissioners for Howard County, Maryland (the “Liquor Board”), pursuant to Rule 1.02(A) of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, has delegated the authority to hear and decide cases to the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board for Howard County, Maryland (the “Hearing Board”).

On November 15, 2016, the Hearing Board heard the application of Robert Anthony Mead and Keith Andrew Watson (the “Applicants”), on behalf of KWATSON5, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro (“KWATSON5, LLC”), for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,900 square foot restaurant with a 434 square foot outdoor patio located at 3800 Ten Oaks Road, Glenelg, Maryland 21737. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Thomas M. Meachum, Esquire. There were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference. These include the following: a letter dated September 9, 2016, from the attorney for the Applicants

enclosing an additional page three of the application; a letter dated August 15, 2016, from the attorney for the Applicants enclosing the application; a copy of the floor plan; copies of the background investigation questionnaires for the Applicants; a copy of the Maryland Motor Vehicle driving record for Keith Andrew Watson; a criminal history record check of Maryland's Criminal Justice Information System, dated July 5, 2016 for Keith Andrew Watson; a copy of the Articles of Organization of KWATSON5, LLC; a certification from the State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation dated May 23, 2015, that KWATSON5, LLC is registered; a memorandum dated October 14, 2016, from the Liquor Board Administrator to the Alcohol Beverage Inspector, the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, the Bureau of Environmental Health, the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the Office of the Fire Marshal; the background investigations of the Applicants from the Alcohol Beverage Inspector, dated November 10, 2016; a memorandum dated October 27, 2016, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a letter dated October 17, 2016, from the Office of the Fire Marshal; an email dated October 17, 2016, from the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits; a letter dated October 14, to the Department of Finance; an email dated October 27, 2016, from the Department of Finance; a letter dated October 14, 2016, to the Comptroller of the Treasury; a fax transmission dated October 14, 2016, from the Liquor Board Administrator to the attorney for the Applicants, enclosing a letter dated October 14, 2016, advising notification of the hearing date, and enclosing the required advertisement; and an e-mail dated November 2, 2016, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted.

#### **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Keith Andrew Watson, Managing Member and 90% shareholder for KWATSON5,

LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro, was sworn and testified that that their concept is to have a restaurant, and a small bakery that specializes in cakes and desserts. Mr. Watson testified that his daughter is a pastry chef, and she will be making the cakes and desserts. Mr. Watson testified that he and his son will be operating the restaurant.

Mr. Watson testified that he has prior restaurant experience, and was a sous chef at a Colorado restaurant, an executive chef at Crab Shanty, and the owner/chef at E.W. Becks. Mr. Watson testified that he is alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Watson testified that he will be involved in operating the entire business, and that he will spend 70 to 90 hours per week at the restaurant.

Mr. Watson testified that they will have 12 employees, who will be alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Watson testified that the hours of operation will be Monday through Thursday, 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M., Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M., Saturday, 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M., and Sunday, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Mr. Watson testified that they will have an outdoor patio area, which will be surrounded by a five and a half foot black wrought iron fence. Mr. Watson testified that they have 16 seats for customers, and that there will be a server dedicated to the area when open. Mr. Watson testified that customers will be required to come through the restaurant to be seated in the outside patio area.

Mr. Watson testified that they hope to have the restaurant open by December 1, 2016.

Robert Anthony Mead, Member and 10% shareholder of KWATSON5, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro, was sworn and testified that he has lived in Howard County for 30 years, is a registered voter, and will re-certify for alcohol awareness. Mr. Mead testified that he was a licensee for Fuddruckers, and during that time there were no violations.



Mr. Mead testified that his role will be to visit the restaurant three to four times per month, where he will observe the operation. Mr. Mead testified that he is familiar with the rules and regulations governing the sale of alcoholic beverages, and that he will abide by them.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicants waived their right to request the Liquor Board to hear the case.

Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Hearing Board finds that Robert Anthony Mead and Keith Andrew Watson on behalf of KWATSONS, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro, have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,900 square foot restaurant with a 434 square foot outdoor patio located at 3800 Ten Oaks Road, Glenelg, Maryland 21737.

2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The Hearing Board finds that Robert Anthony Mead has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a member and 10% shareholder of KWATSONS, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro.

4. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.

5. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of the application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents of the neighborhood.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Hearing Board concludes that Robert Anthony Mead and Keith Andrew Watson on behalf of KWATSONS, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,900 square foot restaurant with a 434 square foot outdoor patio located at 3800 Ten Oaks Road, Glenelg, Maryland 21737.

2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The Hearing Board concludes that Robert Anthony Mead meets the requirements of Rules 1.09(T), 1.09(U), 2.06, and 2.10 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations concerning resident agent qualifications.

4. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.

5. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application would not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

**ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 2 day of December, 2016, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Robert Anthony Mead and Keith Andrew Watson on behalf of KWATSONS, LLC, t/a Dandelion Bakery Bistro, for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,900 square foot restaurant with a 434 square foot outdoor patio located at 3800 Ten Oaks Road, Glenelg, Maryland 21737, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County Rules and Regulations; and
- (b) That Robert Anthony Mead submit evidence that he is alcohol awareness certified; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by April 30, 2017, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING  
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,  
MARYLAND

Denise E. King  
Denise E. King  
Administrator

Mary Bird  
Mary Bird, Chairperson

Heather Gaetano  
Heather Gaetano, Vice-Chairperson

REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY  
OFFICE OF LAW  
GARY W. KUC  
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Charles C. Feaga  
Charles C. Feaga, Member

ABSENT AT TIME OF SIGNING  
Gene Ryan, Member

L. Taylor  
Lewis Taylor, Esquire  
Assistant County Solicitor

Charley C. Sung  
Charley C. Sung, Member