IN THE MATTER OF THE \* BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC

APPLICATION OF RAYMOND WALSH \*

AND BHUPINDER SINGH ON BEHALF \* BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD

OF POLO CLUB, LLC, t/a ANANDA, \*

FOR A REFILLABLE CONTAINER \* FOR

PERMIT ON A CLASS B BEER, WINE,\*

AND LIQUOR 7-DAY ON-SALE \* HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

LICENSE \*

\* Case No.:15-45

## **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 September 29, 2015, the Hearing Board heard the application of Raymond Walsh and Bhupinder Singh ("Applicants"), on behalf of Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda ("Polo Club, LLC"), for a refillable container permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,496 square foot restaurant with a 1,394 square foot outdoor patio located at 7421 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton, Maryland 20759. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were not represented by an attorney. 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 to the Liquor Board Administrator requesting that Raymond Walsh be excused from the hearing; the refillable container permit application; a copy of the background investigation questionnaires for the Applicants; a memorandum dated August 28, 2015, from the Hearing Board to the Alcoholic 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 by the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector dated September 17, 2015; a letter dated September 4, 2015, from the Office of the Fire Marshal; a memorandum dated September 9, 2015, from the

Department of Planning and Zoning; a letter dated August 28, 2015, to the Department of Finance; a letter from the Department of Finance; a letter dated August 28, 2015, to the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated September 10, 2015, from the Comptroller of Maryland; an email to Bhupinder Singh enclosing a fax transmission sheet enclosing a letter dated August 28, 2015, with notification of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; and an email dated September 4, 2015, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted.

#### **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Bhupinder Singh, Licensee for Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda, was sworn and testified that they are applying for a refillable container permit, because his customers have been requesting off-sale beer and wine with their carry-out food.

Mr. Singh testified that he is familiar with the requirements of the refillable container permit.

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.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Hearing Board finds that Raymond Walsh and Bhupinder Singh on behalf of Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda, have applied for a refillable container permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,496 square foot restaurant with a 1,394 square foot outdoor patio located at 7421 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton, Maryland 20759.
- 2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold a refillable container permit.
- 3. The Hearing Board finds that Raymond Walsh has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a 10% shareholder of Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda.
- 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 this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents in the neighborhood.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Hearing Board concludes that Raymond Walsh and Bhupinder Singh on behalf of Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda, have applied for a refillable container permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,496 square foot restaurant with a 1,394 square foot outdoor patio located at 7421 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton, Maryland 20759.
- 2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold a refillable container permit.
- 3. The Hearing Board concludes that Raymond Walsh 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 will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents in the neighborhood.

# **ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this Arday of October, 2015, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, Maryland ORDERED that the application of Raymond Walsh and Bhupinder Singh on behalf of Polo Club, LLC, t/a Ananda, for a refillable container permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,496 square foot restaurant with a 1,394 square foot outdoor patio located at 7421 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton, Maryland 20759, be and the same is hereby GRANTED subject to the following conditions:

- 1. That this **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER** shall become final when the Applicants obtain the license and comply with the following conditions:
  - (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County rules and regulations; and
  - (b) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by November 30, 2015, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

Denise E. King Administrator Mary Bird, Chairperson

Harry Evans, III, Vice-Chairperson

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

Charles C. Feaga, Member

Heather Gaetano, Member

Lewis Taylor, Esquire Assistant County Solicitor

Charley C. Sung, Member