IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF MICHAEL	*	
STEPHEN KOSMAS AND	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
GEORGIOS ANASTASIOS	*	
ALIGEORGAS ON BEHALF OF	*	FOR
THREE RED APPLES, LLC T/A	*	
XENIA AUTHENTIC GREEK	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
KITCHEN FOR AN EXTENSION	*	
OF PREMISES FOR A CLASS B	*	Case No.: 22-34
BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR	*	
7-DAY LICENSE		

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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 July 26, 2022, the Hearing Board heard the application of Michael Stephen Kosmas and Georgios Anastasios Aligeorgas (the "Applicants"), on behalf of Three Red Apples, LLC, t/a Xenia Authentic Greek Kitchen ("Xenia"), for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor 7-Day License for a 6,539 sq. ft. restaurant with a 1,297 sq. ft. patio located at 8850 Columbia 100 Parkway, Unit 104, Columbia, MD 21045.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Claude de Vastey Jones, Esquire and there were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference.

## **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Georgios Anastasios Aligeorgas, 22.5% interest holder and the licensee was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Aligeorgas testified that he was a managing member of Three Red Apples, LLC following recent amendments to the Operating Agreement. Mr. Aligeorgas stated that he currently has a 7-day beer, wine and liquor license for Xenia and that he has had no violations. Mr. Aligeorgas stated he is Alcohol Awareness Certified and that he is seeking to extend the liquor license to include the outdoor patio. Mr. Aligeorgas testified to the outdoor patio and stated it was to the left of the front door and would seat 55-60 people. Mr. Aligeorgas stated there would always be a manager outside to regulate alcohol and that he has read and will abide by the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Aligeorgas stated he would be a good corporate citizen in Howard County.

Michael Stephen Kosmas, 10% interest holder and the resident agent was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Kosmas testified that he is a registered voter in Howard County and he has lived in Howard County since 2011. Mr. Kosmas stated that he practices law for a living and that he is the Chairman of the Global Hotels Resorts and Restaurants Practice Group in Washington D.C. Mr. Kosmas stated that as part of his law practice, he has led the legal teams that have developed, purchased, sold or financed more than 700 hotels around the world. Mr. Kosmas stated that he is Alcohol Awareness Certified and that he has not had any violations at Xenia since they've been open. Mr. Kosmas stated that he has read and will abide by the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Kosmas stated that he takes the service of alcohol seriously and that he wrote a manual for the service of alcohol for Xenia employees. Mr. Kosmas stated he lives

close by and is at the restaurant 2-3 times a week. Mr. Kosmas stated, in his role as resident agent, he closely observes patrons in his restaurant and the services of alcohol. Mr. Kosmas testified that the outdoor patio is tightly landscaped so that the access point is only through the front door. Mr. Kosmas stated there is always a manager on duty who observes what is going on at all times.

Mr. Kosmas stated that he gives back to the community by being charitable and that he has been the President of his Community Association in Howard County for 11 years. Mr. Kosmas stated that they host many events at the restaurant for various organizations and that County Executive Calvin Ball attended their official grand opening in 2019. Mr. Kosmas stated that he holds a community annual food drive every year and that he has raised money for the Howard County Food Bank. Mr. Kosmas testified that Xenia had only been open for a year when COVID caused them to close but that his charity work did not stop, and they held a fundraiser for Grass Roots. Mr. Kosmas stated that they also made food baskets and planted fruit trees and a vegetable garden for people needing help in the community.

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 Michael Stephen Kosmas and Georgios Anastasios Aligeorgas (the "Applicants"), on behalf of Three Red Apples, LLC, t/a Xenia Authentic Greek Kitchen ("Xenia"), have applied for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor 7-Day License for a 6,539 sq. ft. restaurant with a 1,297 sq. ft. patio located at 8850

Columbia 100 Parkway, Unit 104, Columbia, MD 21045.

- 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 Michael Stephen Kosmas, the resident agent applicant, meets the requirements of Rules 1.10(S), 1.10(T), and 2.06 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations concerning resident agent qualifications.
- 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 Michael Stephen Kosmas and Georgios Anastasios Aligeorgas (the "Applicants"), on behalf of Three Red Apples, LLC, t/a Xenia Authentic Greek Kitchen ("Xenia"), have applied for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor 7-Day License for a 6,539 sq. ft. restaurant with a 1,297 sq. ft. patio located at 8850 Columbia 100 Parkway, Unit 104, Columbia, MD 21045.
- 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 Michael Stephen Kosmas, the resident agent applicant, meets the requirements of Rules 1.10(S), 1.10(T), and 2.06 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 of the neighborhood.

#### **ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this May of August, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Michael Stephen Kosmas and Georgios Anastasios Aligeorgas (the "Applicants"), on behalf of Three Red Apples, LLC, t/a Xenia Authentic Greek Kitchen ("Xenia"), for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor 7-Day License for a 6,539 sq. ft. restaurant with a 1,297 sq. ft. patio located at 8850 Columbia 100 Parkway, Unit 104, Columbia, MD 21045, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County laws and regulations; and
- (b) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by January 26, 2023 unless that deadline is extended by the Hearing Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Decision and Order null and void.

# ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING ATTEST: **BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND** <u>ABSENT</u> Mary Bird, Chairperson Ashley Aguilar Board Administrator Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY **ABSENT** OFFICE OF LAW Charley Sung, Member **GARY W. KUC** COUNTY SOLICITOR Senior Assistant/County Solicitor