IN THE MATTER OF THE * BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC

APPLICATION OF BHAVIN *

VIKHRAMBHAL PATEL ON BEHALF * BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD

OF ACCURATE, LLC, T/A MINT *

INDIAN CUISINE & LOUNGE FOR A * OF HOWARD COUNTY

TRANSFER OF A CLASS B BEER, *

WINE, AND LIQUOR 7-DAY ON-SALE * CASE NO. 19-40

LICENSE *

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").

September 10, 2019, the Hearing Board heard the application of Bhavin Vikhrambhal Patel (the "Applicant"), on behalf of Accurate, LLC, t/a Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge ("Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge"), for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license from Henna Jan on behalf of Ziamahi, Inc. for a 3,300-square foot restaurant located at 12447 Clarksville Pike, Unit 1E, Clarksville, MD 21029.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicant was represented by Steven Fogelman, Esquire. 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

Bhavin V. Patel was sworn and testified that he has lived in Howard County for three years and is a registered voter. He testified that he moved to the United States in 1998 and worked at a grocery store and Duncan Donuts before he moved to Howard County in 2015. He has worked in the vending machine business since 2011 and also previously worked as a Manager for Weis Supermarket Mr. Patel testified that he is familiar with the alcohol beverage rules and regulations and is TIPS certified.

Mr. Patel testified that he signed an asset purchase agreement with the owner of Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge in May of 2019 and has been operating the business since June 30, 2019. He has indicated that he has made minimal changes to the business since he began operating the restaurant and has not experienced any issues. Mr. Patel indicated that he did not have a previous relationship with the previous owner and they were introduced via a real estate broker. He testified that he works at the restaurant full time, has eleven employees, and operates the restaurant from 11:30am to 2:30pm and 5:00pm to 10:00pm seven days a week.

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

The following exhibits were entered into the record:

- Exhibit #1 –Affidavit that Mr. Patel is a resident of Howard County and Certificate of Naturalization.
- Exhibit #2 Asset Purchase Agreement
- Exhibit #3 TIPS certification for Mr. Patel
- Exhibit #4 Menu

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 Bhavin Vikhrambhal Patel, on behalf of Accurate, LLC, t/a Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge has applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license from Henna Jan on behalf of Ziamahi, Inc. for a 3,300-square foot restaurant located at 12447 Clarksville Pike, Unit 1E, Clarksville, MD 21029.
- 2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
- 3. The Hearing Board finds that Bhavin Vikhrambhal has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and has a 100% interest in Min Indian Cuisine & Lounge.
- 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 Bhavin Vikhrambhal Patel, on behalf of Accurate, LLC, t/a Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge has applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license from Henna Jan on behalf of Ziamahi, Inc. for a 3,300-square foot restaurant located at 12447 Clarksville Pike, Unit 1E, Clarksville, MD 21029.

- 2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
- 3. The Hearing Board concludes that Bhavin Vikhrambhal Patel 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 would not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 22 day of October, 2019, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County ORDERED that the application of Bhavin Vikhrambhal Patel, on behalf of Accurate, LLC, t/a Mint Indian Cuisine & Lounge for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license from Henna Jan on behalf of Ziamahi, Inc. for a 3,300-square foot restaurant located at 12447 Clarksville Pike, Unit 1E, Clarksville, MD 21029, be and the same is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicant complies with all State and County Rules and Regulations; and
- (b) That the Applicant satisfies any requirements necessary to obtain the license by January 22, 2020, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

| ATTEST: | ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND |
|---|---|
| Robin Regner Board Administrator | Gene Ryan, Chairperson |
| | Mary Bird, Vice Chairperson |
| REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF LAW GARY W. KUC | Dengem |
| COUNTY SOLICITOR | Harry Evans, Member |
| | ABSENTHeather Gaetano, Member |

Jamar Herry, Esquire Assistant County Solicitor