

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF PAULA	*	
DWYER ON BEHALF OF	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
GEORGIA GRACE, LLC, T/A	*	
GEORGIA GRACE CAFÉ,	*	FOR
FOR A TRANSFER OF A CLASS	*	
B, BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE	*	
	*	Case No.: 21-44
	*	

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 23, 2021, the Hearing Board heard the application of Paula Dwyer (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Georgia Grace, LLC, t/a Georgia Grace Café (“Georgia Grace”), for a transfer of a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day On-Sale License for a transfer of a 1,695 square foot restaurant and bar located at 8004-8006 Main Street, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 to a 2,664 sq. ft. restaurant with a 2,504 sq. ft. exterior located at 8329-8333 Main St. Ellicott City, MD 21043.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicant was not represented by counsel.

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

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Paula Dwyer, the sole owner and general manager of Georgia Grace and applicant for the liquor license, was sworn in and testified before the Board.

Ms. Dwyer testified that she is moving her restaurant from the bottom of Main Street to the top due to two devastating floods in Ellicott City. Ms. Dwyer stated she has had a liquor license for three years and will keep the same menu with just a few modifications. The restaurant serves mimosas at breakfast and for special events such as bridal showers, and wine dinners are offered a couple times a month.

Ms. Dwyer testified that she has been working with the Historical Commission to put some of the building back to the original state. Ms. Dwyer stated that fencing will be used to enclose the outdoor area in the back of the building, and the plan is to eventually replace the grassy area with a bluestone patio.

Ms. Dwyer testified that all her servers will take an alcohol awareness class from Mr. Johnson and will card everyone who orders alcohol. Ms. Dwyer stated there will not be a bar, so customers must be seated at a table to order alcohol.

Ms. Dwyer testified that Georgia Grace Café is mainly a breakfast and lunch restaurant and will be open from 8:00am to 5:00pm during the week, and when dinner service is offered, it will only be on the weekend and the café will close by 10:00pm.

Ms. Dwyer testified that she works at the restaurant 90 hours per week, as she is also the baker. Ms. Dwyer stated she hopes to open the new location by April of 2022.

Tony Boudjeda, the chef at the restaurant, testified in favor of the application. Mr. Boudjeda testified that he believes they offer a great product which includes brunch and foods with Greek and Italian influences, and that they will continue to be good neighbors.

The following exhibit was submitted into the record

#1. *Group of photographs of the site*

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicant waived her 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 Paula Dwyer, on behalf of Georgia Grace, LLC, t/a Georgia Grace Café has applied for a transfer of a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day On-Sale License for a transfer of a 1,695 square foot restaurant and bar located at 8004-8006 Main Street, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 to a 2,664 sq. ft. restaurant with a 2,504 sq. ft. exterior located at 8329-8333 Main St. Ellicott City, MD 21043.
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 Ms. Dwyer, 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 Paula Dwyer, on behalf of Georgia Grace,

LLC, t/a Georgia Grace Café has applied for a transfer of a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day On-Sale License for a transfer of a 1,695 square foot restaurant and bar located at 8004-8006 Main Street, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 to a 2,664 sq. ft. restaurant with a 2,504 sq. ft. exterior located at 8329-8333 Main St. Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Ms. Dwyer, 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

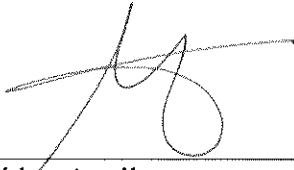
For the foregoing reasons, it is this 4th day of March, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Paula Dwyer, on behalf of Georgia Grace, LLC, t/a Georgia Grace Café for a transfer of a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day On-Sale License from a 1,695 square foot restaurant located at 8004-8006 Main Street, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 to a 2,664 sq. ft. restaurant with a 2,504 sq. ft. exterior located at 8329-8333 Main St. Ellicott City, MD 21043, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

(a) That the Applicant comply with all State and County laws and regulations;

(b) That the Applicant satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by June

30, 2022 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:



Ashley Aguilar
Board Administrator

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND**

Kel Berg for

Mary Bird, Chairperson

Kel Berg for

Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson

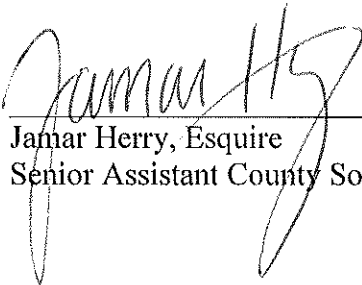
**REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR**

Kel Berg for

Charley Sung, Member

Kel Berg for

Steve Chen, Member



Jamar Herry, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

Kel Berg for

Claire Kim, Member