

**23-03**

**Pioneer University Roadhouse, Inc.**

**d/b/a Richards on University**

**7805 N. University**

**Requesting: Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food)**

**Subclass 1A (2:00 a.m. Closing Hours – Thurs, Fri & Sat)**

**Subclass 2 (live entertainment)**

Fred Jackson, President, and Scott Wood, Manager, presented a request for a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License, with a Subclass 1A (2:00 a.m. Closing Hours) and a Subclass 2 (live entertainment) at 7805 N. University.

In discussion with Chairwoman Coates, Mr. Wood reported in late November they had opened their Richard's on University restaurant. He said they wanted to add a small bar to the establishment. In regard to the requested Subclass 2 (live entertainment), Mr. Wood pointed out they only wanted to have a Juke Box. He said the "live entertainment" description used had caused problems with their insurance carrier because they were under the impression that their establishment wanted to have a live band performing.

Discussion was held regarding the definition of live entertainment. Commissioners agreed there was some confusion and there was a suggestion that the Code be amended to distinguish the difference between live music and other music. The applicant said he would reach out to a Council Member and/or the Legal Department to address the issue.

During comments, Commissioner Jordan said his first thought was the request should be for a Class B-1 (Restaurant, 25% Food) rather than a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License. He mentioned the request for a 2:00 a.m. closing and he expressed his concerns regarding 18-, 19- and 20-year-olds hanging out in the parking lot. He said several years ago they had the same problem downtown and he pointed out the Class B-1 would require anyone under the age of 21 to be present with their legal guardian or parent after 8:00 p.m. He commented after talking to Juan at the establishment regarding their plans, he said he was satisfied with the request for the Class B.

In response to Commissioner Jordan's comments, Mr. Jackson confirmed the establishment would be run as a family restaurant. He said they were not interested in having underaged patrons hanging out at their place of business. After more comments, he agreed the Class B-1 would be a better fit for their establishment.

Liquor Investigator Linthicum agreed the change to the Class B-1, and he went on to say it would eliminate some potential problems in the future with the Police Dept.

After discussion, the applicant decided to amend the request to a Class B-1 (Restaurant, 25% Food) Liquor License for 7805 N. University.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairwoman Coates called for a motion.

Commissioner Spears moved to recommend approval of the amended request for a Class B-1 (Restaurant, 25% Food) Liquor License, with a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Closing Hours – Thurs, Fri & Sat) and a Subclass 2 (live entertainment) for 7805 N. University; seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Coates, Hounwanou, Jordan, Spears - 4;

Nays: None;

Abstention: None.

Chairwoman Coates stated this recommendation would be heard at the City Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.