

March 3, 2016

To whom it may concern:

This letter of is drafted on behalf of, and with the approval of, the Eken Park Neighborhood Association.

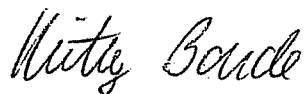
During the renovation and reopening of the Tip Top Tavern, Ben Altschul has acted in good faith, as a neighbor, to take into consideration the impacts his establishment would have on the peace and well-being of the neighborhood. He has been forthcoming and easy to work with during his dealings with the numerous bureaucracies and personalities involved in sanctioning the establishment of a liquor bar. Ben has spent a remarkable amount of time talking candidly to neighbors, law enforcement, and the local community; making sure to address as many concerns as possible before those small issues had the chance to turn into actual problems or conflicts. Ben has also made a habit of attending EPNA meetings to inform the neighborhood of his plans, and to provide a venue for people to voice their concerns.

Ben is currently seeking permission from the City to keep open an outdoor public space for patrons of the Tip Top to enjoy. This space is currently closed in consideration of a neighbor's concerns for noise. Ben has gone above and beyond his responsibility as a business owner -- acting as a neighbor first -- to accommodate the mitigation of the noise. Despite the obvious cut to profits that would result from keeping the patio open during nighttime hours, Ben agreed to close the patio at 10:00 pm, every night! Patrons of the Tip Top have been very respectful of the 10:00 guideline, and the Staff have done a great job ushering guests inside within minutes of the designated hour.

Ben has gone to great lengths to address the concerns of the public during the early months of the Tip Top's reopening. In addition, the establishment has brought a great deal of joy, camaraderie, entertainment, and economy to our neighborhood. We live in a democratic, market based, society, and recognize that no rules or situations will ever please everyone. When conflicts do arise, we have a social agreement to try and compromise; then, barring the ability to reach an agreement, we take conflicts to the public sphere.

It is with this in mind, and in light of the great lengths that Ben has gone to try and compromise, that the members of EPNA do contend that keeping the back patio of the Tip Top available is in the best interest of the public, and local business, and should be allowed to remain open.

Sincerely,
Eken Park Neighborhood Association



Kitty Bonde *Co-Chair, EPNA*