

Subject: Baldwin Street Grille liquor license application

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Hi Mark,

I will not be able to submit personal testimony at tonight's ALRC meeting, so I'm providing written comments; I realize time is short, but I was hoping you may be able to distribute this to the commissioners in advance of the meeting.

My wife and I live across Baldwin Street from the Baldwin Street Grille (a couple houses down from it). We've lived here since the bar was previously Pug Mahone's, and experienced all of the noise and other issues that came with that troubled establishment. Things have been considerably better since the change of ownership and new establishment of the Baldwin Street Grille. I'd like to say first off that we are patrons of the bar, we appreciate its presence in the neighborhood, and we would like to see it do well. Ryan Schultz, the prospective new owner, has been very open and communicative about our concerns related to the bar as he has prepared to take over ownership, and we commend him for it.

However, we do have concerns related to late-night noise with the bar, that can basically be classified into "on-site" and "off-site" issues. Off-site issues can be boiled down to people returning to their parked cars, often loudly and late at night, on Baldwin Street (the bar has no parking lot, so patrons park in front of the houses) after patronizing the bar. I understand that neither the bar owner, nor the ALRC can do too much to limit this noise (though the prospective owner has mentioned he could put up a sign near exits encouraging patrons to respect the neighborhood, and we told him we'd appreciate that.)

What I'm hoping the ALRC can do something about is the on-site noise issue. A "patio" in the back driveway area of the bar (which opens to Baldwin Street) is often a source of late-night noise, with patrons--usually outside for a cigarette--being loud. We would ask for, and support, anything the Committee can do to limit this noise, including prohibiting drinks outside, limiting access through this patio area, and encouraging any "noise deadening" measures that can be taken by the establishment in this area. The prospective owner has indicated he would be willing to put a gate in the back patio area (currently there is no gate--just an opening in a partial fence) that would prevent patrons from entering from the outside--only exiting would be permitted. We'd like to see this pursued. He also indicated that he'd be willing to put a "noise deadener" liner on the fence, which we would also like to see happen.

I understand the current license for the establishment has no provisions for "outside space," yet this outside space is creating problems, in spite of the lack of a provision for it in the license. I would request that the issue is addressed by the committee in granting a new license to the establishment.

I'm sorry I will not be in attendance to testify at the meeting, but I appreciate the opportunity to voice my concerns here.

Regards,
Matt Krueger
24 N. Baldwin Street