Russell Squire Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



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The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan

February 22, 2021

Adam Roberts
Deputy Commissioner
State Liquor Authority
80 South Swan Street, Suite 900
Albany, NY 12210-8002

RE: The Green Kitchen, 1619 Second Avenue and 1475 First Avenue -- Request for support of the reinstatement of their SLA License.

Dear Deputy Commissioner Roberts,

Applications will only be approved based upon the applicant's agreement to the following stipulations:

- 1. The applicant will abide by the bicycle guidelines and will ensure that any third-party delivery provider that it contracts with shall abide by the bicycle guidelines.
- 2. The applicant will keep the front of the establishment clean.
- 3. The applicant will be denied if they participate in bar-crawls.
- 4. The applicant will abide by applicable Covid-19 regulations at the time.

At the February 17, 2021 Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan, the board unanimously <u>approved</u> the following resolution by a vote of 47 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS Green Kitchen had its liquor license suspended by the State Liquor Authority on October 25, 2020;

WHEREAS the suspension was due to several violations, including selling alcoholic beverages without an accompanying food purchase; allowing congregation of patrons in front of premises without facemask; allowing patrons to dine inside the premises; having employees that were not wearing facemasks; and serving patrons after curfew;

WHEREAS the applicant has asked Community Board 8 for its support in Green Kitchen's request to SLA to reinstate its license;

WHEREAS Green Kitchen has indicated that the suspension of its license is an undue hardship for the business;

WHEREAS Green Kitchen has developed a Remediation Plan (attached) to rectify the issues with the violations and to prevent future violations;

WHEREAS Green Kitchen's liquor license has been suspended for over 3 months at the date of the Street Life Meeting; and

WHEREAS the Street Life Committee views that given the current circumstances surrounding Covid-19 and that the suspension has been in effect for several months and provided that Green Kitchen continues to abide by the terms of the Remediation Plan;

BE IT RESOLVED that the request for a letter in support of reinstatement of Green Kitchen's liquor license is APPROVED, subject to the stipulations above.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

Abraham Salcedo

Russell Squire Chair

Abraham Salcedo Chair, Street Life Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York

Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative

Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District

Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District

Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District

Honorable Robert J. Rodriguez, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District

Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District

Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District

Green Kitchen

1619 2nd Ave

New York, NY 10028

Remediation Plan

- Demotion of Aris Kasimis as main operator of 1619 2nd location (Completed)
 - Aris previously worked under Constantine Kasimis (prior owner) before his covid-related death in March 2020
 - Aris Kasimis to be replaced by Peter Kasimis and Vasili Karabatsos
- Implementation of zero strike policy for all staff (Completed)
 - Failure to correctly wear masks at any time will result in immediate firing
- Hiring of full-time security staff (Pending)
 - Focus on surveying premises and mandating social distancing plus mandatory mask policy for all staff and patrons
- Removal of portable speakers from storefront (Completed)
 - o Main cause of noise projection onto 2nd avenue and noise-related violations
- Installation of electric heaters along premises and removal of propane heaters (Completed)
 - Propane tanks found in basement were empty and have since been removed
- Sidewalk obstructions removed (maintaining 8-foot clearance) (Completed)
 - o Removed additional tables and potted plants
- Posting of all required signage, licenses and certifications on premises (Completed)
- Removed of Constantine Kasimis (deceased) from liquor license (Pending)
- Correction of temporary occupancy signage to reflect correct occupancy based on C of O (Completed)
- Fire extinguishers correctly mounted (Completed)
- Open flame candles replaced with battery powered candles (Completed)
 - Open flame candles were not being used at time of inspection