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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

www.manhattancb2.org

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: info@manhattancb2.org

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April 23, 2025

Director
Licensing Issuance Division
NY State Liquor Authority 163 W. 125th Street
New York, New York 10027

Dear Sir/Madam:

At its Full Board meeting on April 17, 2025, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Temiani LLC dba Champion Pizza 2 W 14th St 10011 (OP–Restaurant) (Class Change)

- i. Whereas**, the Applicant and the Applicant’s Attorney appeared before Community Board 2, Manhattan’s SLA Licensing Committee #2 to present an application to the NYS Liquor Authority for an upgrade of their current Restaurant Wine License to an On-Premises Restaurant Liquor License to continue to operate a pizzeria on the ground floor of a seventeen-story commercial building on southwest corner of West 14th Street and Fifth Avenue in Greenwich Village; and
- ii. Whereas**, prior to the licensee receiving their restaurant wine liquor license in 2024, the storefront had previously operated as a pizzeria, albeit without a liquor license, and had never previously been occupied/operated with the service of alcoholic beverages, the interior storefront being 1,100 sq. ft., with cellar access, the basement being for storage purposes only and not for patron service, there is a pizza oven but not a full service kitchen, with one (1) food counter, 10 interior tables with 20 patron seats for a total indoor seated patron seating occupancy for 20 persons, the storefront infill being fixed without operable windows or French doors, and one (1) patron bathroom; and
- iii. Whereas**, the hours of operation will be from 10 AM to 4 AM Saturdays through Sundays, the current stipulations in place with the Applicant’s restaurant wine license state that alcohol will end by 12:00 AM every night, music is background only or live acoustic music on the weekend, in addition to the class change the Applicant is requesting a significant number of changes to the method of operation, a change in method of operation was not included with the 30-day notice to the municipality, those changes include the service of alcohol until 2 AM or 4 AM, the addition of DJs and karaoke from Thursday to Saturdays with security guards, to remodel the interior to be more consistent with a restaurant space with reservations in the evenings, a change in the DBA name, there were no diagrams provided for any changes to the

interior to create a restaurant, no details on how the premises would operate as a reservation restaurant as opposed to the current pizzeria; and

- iv. **Whereas**, the original application for the service of wine and beer until midnight in a pizzeria located in a location surrounded by college students, with the pizzeria staying open later to provide an inexpensive food option to those students while not providing more opportunities for drinking provides an amenity to the area; and
- v. **Whereas**, the instant application, with the upgrade to full liquor being subject to the public interest standard of the 500 Foot Rule requiring the Applicant to demonstrate that the public interest would be served by the granting of the On-Premises Liquor License at this location, there being **36 active licensed premises** within 750 ft. and 4 pending licenses according to LAMP, there being no application for or specifics on the change in method of operation mentioned on the supplied questionnaire and during the CB2, Man. SLA Committee meeting in a location surrounded by college students, those changes being a significant change in method of operation that are not supported by the supplied and unchanged kitchen diagram and seating floor plan of the premises, the service this establishment provides to the community at present is a place where someone can grab a casual slice or meal and a glass of wine or beer in the evening hours, and a quick bite without alcohol after a night out; the instant application providing no additional meaningful benefit that is not currently met elsewhere in the community and instead taking away the benefit of having a place where people can eat later at night but not continue drinking, the immediate area being surrounded by college students; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 2, Manhattan recommends **denial** of the application for an On-Premises Liquor License for **Temiani LLC dba Champion Pizza 2 W 14th St 10011**; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should this application be considered by the NYSLA, CB2, Manhattan respectfully requests that this item be calendared to appear before the Full Board of the NYSLA.

Vote: Unanimous, 35 Board Members in favor.

We respectfully request that your agency take action consistent with the positions expressed in the above.

Sincerely,



Donna Raftery, Chair
SLA Licensing 1 and 2 Committees
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Valerie De La Rosa, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

VDLR/em

cc: Hon. Daniel Goldman, Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, NY State Senator
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NY State Assembly
Hon. Grace Lee, State Assembly Member
Hon. Brad Lander, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Michael Levine, Man. Borough President
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Speaker
Hon. Christopher Marte, NYC Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, NYC Council Member
Thomas Donohue, Deputy Commissioner of Licensing, NY State Liquor Authority