



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of April 21, 2012

DATE: April 12, 2012

SUBJECT: U-2677-90-1 USE PERMIT REVIEW for live entertainment and dancing at the Salsa Room; located at 2916 Columbia Pike (RPC# 25-016-004).

Applicant:

Salsa Room
2619 Columbia Pike
Arlington, Virginia 22202

C.M. RECOMMENDATION:

Renew the subject use permit, subject to all previously approved conditions, with a County Board review in five (5) years (April, 2017).

ISSUES: This is a five (5)-year review of a use permit for live entertainment and dancing at the Salsa Room, formerly known as Cecilia's, and no issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: This is a five (5) year review of live entertainment and dancing at the Salsa Room. The applicant has operated live entertainment and dancing at the site since 1990; the owners changed the name from Cecilia's to the Salsa Room in 2008 to capture the growing market for salsa music in the Washington DC metro area. Since the last review, the applicant has operated in compliance with all use permit conditions, and no issues have been identified. Therefore, staff recommends renewal of the use permit subject to all previously approved conditions, with a County Board review in five (5) years.

BACKGROUND: This is a review of an existing use permit for live entertainment and dancing at the Salsa Room, located at 2619 Columbia Pike. The applicant offers live performances by international Latin artists, as well as salsa and bachata dancing. The use permit was originally approved in 1990 and has been reviewed several times since operations began. During the most recent review, in 2007, the applicant was found to have operated in compliance with all use permit conditions, and no issues were identified with the operation of live entertainment and

County Manager:

BMD/GA

County Attorney:

[Handwritten signatures]

Staff: Matthew W. Pfeiffer, DCPHD, Planning

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dancing at the site. In 2008, the owners of the restaurant changed the name to the Salsa Room in order to capture the growing Washington DC market for live salsa music events.

The following graphic provides additional contextual information about the site:



Location of the Salsa Room

Source: Bing Maps

DISCUSSION: Since the last County Board review (April 2007):

Use Permit Conditions: The applicant has operated in compliance with all use permit conditions.

Community Code Enforcement: The Code Enforcement Office has reported no issues with the subject use permit.

Police Department: The Police Department has reported no issues with the subject use permit.

Fire Marshal's Office: The Fire Marshal's Office has reported no issues with the subject use permit.

Virginia ABC Board: The ABC Board has reported no issues with the subject use permit.

Civic Association: The site is located within the Penrose Civic Association. Staff contacted the Penrose, Arlington Heights, Columbia Heights, and Douglas Park civic associations, and

the Columbia Pike Redevelopment Organization (CPRO) for comment on this review. No comments have been received as of the date of this report.

CONCLUSION: The use permit has operated successfully over the past five (5) years; no violations of use permit conditions of use permit conditions have been identified and no issues have been reported. Therefore, staff recommends renewal of the subject use permit subject to all previously approved conditions, with a County Board review in five (5) years.

PREVIOUS COUNTY BOARD ACTIONS:

- October 6, 1990 Approved a Use Permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant (Faizi's) from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Fridays through Sundays, subject to the conditions of the staff report, and with a review in one (1) year.
- June 4, 1991 Approved Use Permit Amendment (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment in an existing restaurant (Faizi's), Wednesdays through Sundays, from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., subject to amended condition #1, original conditions #2 and #3, and with a review in one (1) year.
- June 13, 1992 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant subject to all previous conditions, and with a review in six (6) months.
- December 12, 1992 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant subject to all previous conditions, and with a review in six (6) months.
- February 5, 1994 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant subject to all previous conditions, one new condition (#4) and a review in six (6) months.
- August 5, 1994 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant subject to all previous conditions and with a review in one (1) year.
- August 8, 1995 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant, subject to all previous conditions and with a review in three (3) years.
- April 21, 2001 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant, subject to all previous conditions and with an administrative review in six (6) months and a County Board review in one (1) year.
- April 20, 2002 Continued use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant, subject to all previous conditions and with a County review in one (1) year.

April 26, 2003	Renewed use permit (U-2677-90-1) for live entertainment and dancing in an existing restaurant, subject to all previous conditions and with a County review in one (1) year (April 2004).
April 24, 2004	Renew, subject to all previous conditions, with an administrative review in one (1) year (April 2005) and a County Board review in three (3) years (April 2007).
April 21, 2007	Renewed use permit for live entertainment and dancing subject to all previously approved conditions, with a County Board review in five (5) years.

Approved Conditions:

1. Live entertainment and dancing shall be permitted five (5) days per week. The hours of operation shall be 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a. m., Wednesdays through Sundays.
2. The applicant shall acquire an approved dance hall permit before customer dancing shall be permitted. No go-go style dancing shall be permitted.
3. All requirements of County Ordinances, the Environmental Health Bureau and the Fire Marshal shall be met.
4. The applicant agrees to continue to employ security personnel to discourage parking to the rear of the restaurant and to encourage patrons to depart quietly.

