

causing traffic on 76th St., food running out, unprofessional service, lack of lighting, litter, broken drive-thru window.

Ald. Lewis said that Mr. Copeland was made aware of the issues at the previous meeting; was given specific aspects to target for improvement; and those aspects included operations, customer service, garbage surrounding the property, and poor food quality.

Member Duckworth said that quality and service must be maintained at the business, experiences and issues have already been shared to Mr. Copeland for this location, and changes must be implemented as requested for the location to continue its business.

Chair Hinton said that the committee has yet to see Popeyes' commitment to the community with quality, that Mr. Copeland knew of the issues, and Mr. Copeland needed to self-reflect.

Mr. Copeland said that they were also very serious and understood all the feedback to make things better in every community that they work or have business in.

Ms. Dotson asked if he or another owner has spent the day observing operations at the business and said that the committee was professional on delivering their impressions and opinions to all businesses that came before them in the same way and that the issues at the business was unacceptable.

Mr. Copeland said that he has been there many times from the early hours to late hours, they have made changes inside, people would see a difference, and he will work on providing a new plan to address issues.

Ald. Lewis told Mr. Copeland to submit the new plan to clerk staff to be shared with the board and to be reviewed at the next meeting to coincide with the locations license renewal application.

d. Bellagio Experience Corp hookah restaurant at 8665 W. Brown Deer Rd.

Appearing:

Darryl Simmons, Bellagio Experience Corp

Ald. Lewis said that the location was the former Big Country's location, Mr. Simmons was trying to target soul food, she had seen a hookah sign, dance floor, wanted Mr. Simmons to present to the committee his business proposal, neighbors were fine with the food but not the hookah part, and for the committee to make a decision in support or nonsupport of the business.

Mr. Simmons said that his passion was the food, there was big space by the bathroom that could be used as a hookah lounge and for comedy acts entertainment.

Members questioned the age limit, security plans for crowd control, and Mr. Simmons' intention to stick with his business plan and not diverge from it.

Mr. Simmons replied that he would have trained security, he was aware of the issues with the city, and he would not have a party scene, he would just have comedy acts in a peaceful environment, the business would become an asset to the community, he would look for a mature crowd and have a dress code, he did not worship money, he

would keep the place impeccable, his main goal was the soul food, the hookah and comedy acts would be extra additions, and he would not do anything that did not fit his role as a father and mentor.

Members said that 25-27 years olds were not necessary mature, the City was not short of hookah bars, there was a shortage of event venue rental spaces, Mr. Simmons should try to pursue event rental operations or something that better aligned with his passion for food for the big empty space instead, quality would bring older patrons, and Mr. Simmons should stay true to his original plan.

Mr. Simmons thanked the committee for the feedback and said that he was not a smoker himself, there would be tobacco free products, he would update the patron ages on the business plan, and he had obtained an occupancy permit.

Member Dotson moved approval of the proposed soul food restaurant with hookah and comedy acts contingent upon the age requirement being amended to 30 years or older. (Prevailed 2-1-1) No - Duckworth, Abstain - Lewis

e. Exotic Blends Cigar Lounge at 8320 W. Beatrice Ct.

Appearing:
Lynette Patterson
Chris Patterson

Ald. Lewis said that the Patterson's application came to the office for a cigar lounge, they understood that cigars were expensive, the location was close to Northridge Mall, and for the committee to review the proposed business for transparency.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson said that they have been in the community for many years, they have been crafting this plan based on their experiences in Chicago, they would start small with mature clientele, cigars would be blended with drinks (coffee, tequila, whisky, and wines), the building had been vacant for many years and sustained inside damage, they saw an opportunity to create the environment that they have wanted, they were close to retirement, they enjoyed smoking, the clientele would be above 30 years old with moderate hours, would have security and job opportunities for the community, understood that not everyone supports smoking, some people enjoyed smoking, patronage would be membership based, there would be waivers and guidelines, and there would be a recirculation air system installed to prevent smell.

Ald. Lewis said that she was supportive of the plan, confident in the Pattersons, and that the business would be an attractive amenity for young professionals.

Member Dotson said that she was looking forward to take her brother there when he comes to visit her.

Chair Hinton said that he likes his cigar from time to time, the community needed businesses to entertain mature crowds, and asked the applicants to tell patrons to be respectful of neighbors.

Member Dotson moved approval, seconded by member Lewis, of the cigar lounge. (Prevailed 3-1) No - Duckworth

f. Northwest Master Plan (Royal Capital)