

**EAST LYME ZONING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING I
Thursday, APRIL 8th, 2010
MINUTES**

FILED IN EAST LYME TOWN
CLERK'S OFFICE
April 12 20 10 at 1:50 AM
PM
Bob Bulmer
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

The East Lyme Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on the Application of Leo Roche for Strive LLC for a renewal of a Special Permit for Outdoor Dining at property identified in the application as 247-2 Main Street, Niantic, CT on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT. Chairman Salerno opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 PM.

PRESENT: Mark Salerno, Chairman, Rosanna Carabelas, Secretary,
Matt Walker, Norm Peck, Steve Carpenteri, Bob Bulmer, Alternate

ALSO PRESENT: Leo Roche, Applicant
James Liska, Alternate

ABSENT: Ed Gada, William Dwyer, Alternate

PANEL: Mark Salerno, Chairman, Rosanna Carabelas, Secretary,
Matt Walker, Norm Peck, Steve Carpenteri, Bob Bulmer,
Alternate

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was observed.

Public Hearing I

1. Application of Leo Roche for Strive LLC for a renewal of a Special Permit for Outdoor Dining at property identified in the application as 247-2 Main Street, Niantic, CT

Mr. Salerno noted that he had seated Bob Bulmer, Alternate at the table this evening. He said that the ad for this Public Hearing had been run in the New London Day. He then called upon the applicant for his presentation.

Leo Roche, Mystic, CT said that he is applying for a renewal of the outdoor dining permit for his patio at the Black Sheep, the same as he has now.

Mr. Bulmer asked how many seats he had and what does the 'same as last year' mean.

Mr. Roche said that he has 24 seats on the patio – 6 tables with 4 seats each. He serves liquor up until midnight; there is no sitting on the wall, no pets, etc.

Mr. Bulmer asked if they allow people to order a drink without food.

Mr. Roche said yes.

Mr. Bulmer asked if it is a requirement to order food in order to get hard liquor.

Mr. Salerno and Ms. Carabelas said that in the Minutes of February 9, 2009 that they allowed people to order liquor as long as they were seated at a table.

Mr. Roche noted that they have a late menu and serve until midnight.

Mr. Walker said that he admires the outdoor patio area, the stonework is absolutely beautiful and he hopes that he is there for a long, long time.

Ms. Carabelas echoed the same sentiments and added that she and her daughter enjoy sitting out there and having a drink in the nice weather.

Mr. Roche said that there is a need for outdoor seating as it says that the Town is open to business.

Mr. Salerno called for any other comments from the public –

Hearing none –

Mr. Salerno asked Mr. Roche if he keeps the chairs out all year.

Mr. Roche said no and added that he just put them out now so that they could be tightened up and prepared for the season.

Mr. Salerno asked if they allow people to carry drinks outside.

Mr. Roche said that typically they do not and that he does have people watching at the door although some people do slip through. He said that they will monitor it more carefully.

Mr. Salerno asked if he had planters last year.

Mr. Roche said that he did have them on the top of the stone wall and that some were damaged and others were stolen.

Harry Loginidis, owner of Family Pizza noted that all of his planters were broken in one night last year and that he did not replace them as they are very expensive.

Mr. Roche said that they will put them back out this year but they have to bring them in each night as otherwise they get damaged.

Ms. Carabelas asked if they could be secured to the top of the wall.

Mr. Roche said no as he does not want to damage the bluestone top. They will take them in each night.

Mr. Salerno asked about the speakers and the music outside and the volume.

Mr. Roche said that there is a speaker for outside music and that he was not aware of any complaints and will monitor it carefully.

Ms. Carabelas asked if they have cigarette receptacles.

Mr. Roche said that he has them and that people would still put them on the ground regardless of how many are put out there.

Mr. Salerno asked if there were any other questions or comments.

Hearing none –

Mr. Salerno called for a motion to close this Public Hearing.

****MOTION (1)**

Ms. Carabelas moved that this Public Hearing be closed.

Mr. Bulmer seconded the motion.

Vote: 6– 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Salerno closed this Public Hearing at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary