

CARAG Resolution

Calhoun Area Residents Action Group

Re: Tum Rup Thai

Date: 3 May 2005

Whereas, Somsap Enterprises Inc. has applied to the City of Minneapolis for an on-sale, Class E, liquor license with Sunday sales for Tum Rup Thai restaurant at 1221 W. Lake St., and

Whereas, CARAG wishes to see successful businesses in the Uptown Row development that are good neighbors to the nearby, surrounding residential uses; and

Whereas, the CARAG Zoning Committee met on 28 April 2005 with Steve Hein, the manager of Tum Rup Thai; Tum Rup Thai's business plan submitted to the City states that the restaurant will close at 12:00 midnight Monday to Friday and 1:00 A. M. Saturday and Sunday; Mr. Hein and the Zoning Committee agreed to a compromise in which the restaurant would close one hour earlier—at 11:00 P. M. and 12:00 midnight, pending approval by the restaurant owner; and Mr. Hein said the business would be a restaurant, not a bar, and the kitchen would be open during all hours of operation (the bar has 6 seats; the rest of the restaurant has 82 seats); and

Whereas, it appears the owner may have not agreed to the earlier closing because of a perceived need to compete with Chiang Mai Thai located a block away in Calhoun Square; Chiang Mai closes at 1:00 A. M. daily but stops serving its full menu at 11:00 P. M. (because of limited food sales, according to a manager), serves appetizers until 12:00 midnight, has a much larger bar capacity of approximately 46 seats, and has a very busy bar business later in the evening; and

Whereas, the CARAG Zoning Committee makes the following findings:

1. The compromise closing hours of 11:00 and 12:00 are acceptable. We are concerned about livability issues, and noise in particular, and the growing number of late-night establishments serving alcohol that are spreading out from the Hennepin-Lake and Lyn-Lake commercial nodes.
2. According to City Licensing staff, it is their understanding that closing times of 11:00 and 12:00 means that patrons have left the establishment by those times (and not that they are no longer allowed to enter).
3. Restaurants can be expected to have limited food sales after 11:00 P. M. Staying open until 1:00 A. M. is indicative of functioning as a bar during late evening hours.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the CARAG Zoning Committee recommends that the City approve the requested license with following conditions permanently attached to this licensee's license:

1. The restaurant shall close no later than 11:00 P. M. Sunday to Thursday and 12:00 midnight Friday and Saturday (patrons will have left by this time).
2. Outdoor seating shall close, i.e., be cleared, by 10:00 P. M. Friday and Saturday and by 9:00 P. M. on other days.
3. Food service shall be available during all hours of operation; and

Be it further resolved that the CARAG Zoning Committee recommends that the City deny approval of the requested license if the applicant does not agree to the closing hours listed in condition #1 above.

Moved by: Woehrlin

Seconded by: Price

Vote: 6 - 0