

The Chester Planning & Zoning Commission held a public hearing at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut on Thursday, December 13, 2018 for Special Exception #18-03 submitted by Joel Gargano (applicant) and Bill DeJonge (owner) to add additional seating of 32 seats for the use of private parties, on property located at 6 Main Street (Tax Map 14, Lot 332, Village District).

Commission members in attendance and seated were Jon Lavy, Michael Sanders, Bettie Perreault, Henry Krempel, Peter Zanardi, Elaine Fitzgibbons, Jacqueline Stack, Steven Merola, Pat Bisacky (seated for K. Scherber for the hearing). Sally Murray was also present but not seated.

Secretary Perreault read the Notice of Public Hearing into the record, said Notice having been published in the Hartford Courant.

Chairman Lavy reviewed public hearing procedures.

Joel Gargano introduced himself and his wife. He noted the existing restaurant space has 40 seats and 6 bar seats. They would like to accommodate private parties in the unused vault/office area. Currently they cannot accommodate private functions. They have been open for 13 months now and would like to move forward with private parties as they have had several requests for private dining.

These parties would be booked in advance. Maybe 10-12 people twice a week and 25-32 people once a month. There will be no live music at these events.

Approvals were read into the record from the Fire Marshal, Water Pollution Control Authority and Sanitarian (no additional bathrooms). Chairman Lavy also reviewed conditions from the Fire Marshal.

Parking was reviewed. Granos has its own parking lot. They also advise patrons there is a municipal lot and recommend car pooling. They also have advised staff to park in the Maple Street Municipal Lot.

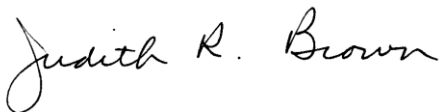
Mr. Gargano noted they are really excited to create a new environment that is welcome and for people to relax.

Sarah Jansen asked if they considered offering valet service. Mr. Gargano replied they have and another idea would be to have a parking attendant.

No one spoke either in favor or in opposition to the application.

Motion by Perreault, second by Krempel, to close the public hearing at 7:45 PM. Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary