## Findings of Fact | Parking Conditional Use Permit City of Portsmouth Planning Board

Date: <u>March 21, 2024</u>

Property Address: 33 Jewell Ct.

Application #: LU-23-205

Decision: 

Approve Deny Approve with Conditions

### Findings of Fact:

Per RSA 676:3, I: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. The decision shall include specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of the all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

### **Parking Conditional Use Permit**

10.1112.14 The Planning Board may grant a conditional use permit to allow a building or use to provide less than the minimum number of off-street parking spaces required by Section 10.1112.30, Section 10.1112.61, or Section 10.1115.20, as applicable, or to exceed the maximum number of off-street parking spaces allowed by Section 10.1112.51.

	Parking Conditional Use Permit 10.1112.14 Requirements	Finding (Meets Criteria/Requirement)	Supporting Information
1	10.1112.141 An application for a conditional use permit under this section shall include a parking demand analysis, which shall be reviewed by the City's Technical Advisory Committee prior to submission to the Planning Board, demonstrating that the proposed number of off-street parking spaces is sufficient for the proposed use.	Meets  Does Not Meet	The number of off-street parking spaces supplied at this site is sufficient for this use. Most guests will carpool or Uber to an event. Pursuant to the submitted parking demand analysis, there is excess parking supply during the anticipated peak hours for the proposed use.
2	10.1112.142 An application for a conditional use permit under this section shall identify permanent evidence-based measures to reduce parking demand, including but not limited to provision of rideshare/microtransit services	Meets Does Not Meet	The applicant's operation involves no staff on site and clients utilizing the facility will be contractually required to utilize shuttle or valet service over and above the spaces that the condominium association has allocated to 33 Jewell Court. In addition, parking for this site is within the regulatory purview the

	Parking Conditional Use Permit 10.1112.14 Requirements	Finding (Meets Criteria/Requirement)	Supporting Information
	or bikeshare station(s) servicing the property, proximity to public transit, car/van-pool incentives, alternative transit subsidies, provisions for teleworking, and shared parking on a separate lot subject to the requirements of 10.1112.62.		condominium association, which would have the authority to establish appropriate rules and regulations in the unlikely event parking becomes problematic as a result of this use.
3	10.1112.143 The Planning Board may grant a conditional use permit only if it finds that the number of off-street parking spaces required or allowed by the permit will be adequate and appropriate for the proposed use of the property. In making this determination, the Board may accept, modify or reject the findings of the applicant's parking demand analysis.	Meets  Does Not Meet	The number of spaces is adequate and appropriate for the proposed use of the property given the factors enumerated above.
4	10.1112.144 At its discretion, the Planning Board may require more off-street parking spaces than the minimum number requested by the applicant, or may allow fewer spaces than the maximum number requested by the applicant.	Meets  Does Not Meet	
5	Other Board Findings:		
6	Additional Conditions of Approv	<u>al</u> :	



**John K. Bosen** Admitted in NH & MA

Christopher P. Mulligan Admitted in NH & ME

Molly C. Ferrara
Admitted in NH & ME

Austin Mikolaities
Admitted in NH

Bernard W. Pelech 1949 - 2021

February 27, 2024

Mr. Rick Chellman, Chair Planning Board City of Portsmouth 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801

RE: 33 Jewell Court, Tax Map 155, Lot 5-S1

REQUEST FOR PARKING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Dear Mr. Chellman:

This office represents 33 Jewell Court, LLC, the owner of the above referenced property. The property presently consists of a single, stand-alone building within a condominium association. It has 9500 square feet of office space. The applicant's principal, Ms. Jessica Kaiser, is the principal of Hawthorne Creative, which provides marketing and support services for the wedding and event industry. Hawthorne Creative's offices previously occupied the second floor of this space, and had 45 employees in the space at its peak. As a result of the pandemic, Hawthorne Creative moved to a remote office model, in April of 2020. They were able to secure a new tenant in 2021, however, that tenant is now moving out and despite extensive efforts to market the space since August, it has not received any interest.

Ms. Kaiser is seeking to leverage her twenty plus years in the wedding and event planning industry by converting the second floor into event space. A special exception for that purpose was obtained from the Board of Adjustment on January 23, 2024 (Case no. LU-23-25). A copy of that approval is attached. The applicant intends to rent the space out for events and to contractually require clients to employ shuttle or valet services. It is anticipated that the facility will host 25-35 events per year. Overflow parking, if necessary, is available at a number of nearby businesses on Islington Street, whose hours of operation will not conflict with the primarily weekend events to be hosted in the space.

The applicant requires a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to 10.1112.14 to provide less than the minimum number of off-street parking spaces otherwise required under Section 10.1112.30 relative to the proposed partial change in use at the above

location. The proposed change of use will be the conversion of 3,800 square feet of office space into event space. Based upon discussions with planning department staff, it is the applicant's understanding that the parking requirement applies only to the actual event space itself, not accessory storage, mechanical space and bathrooms.

Submitted herewith are site plan, floor plan, parking calculation and parking demand analysis.

The parking configuration on site as it presently exists consists of 205 spaces. For the combined uses on the site, should this use be approved, the ordinance would otherwise require 242 spaces. The property received a special exception and variance in 1996 to allow 205 spaces where 244 would have otherwise been required under the zoning then in effect. The condominium association of which 33 Jewell Court is a part has allocated 28 spaces to this building. Parking has never been a problem at this location. To the extent patrons of the proposed event space require utilization of more spaces than those allocated to 33 Jewell Court, they will be contractually obligated to use the aforementioned shuttle or valet services.

The applicant maintains that the approval criteria set forth in Section 10.1112.14 are met:

10.1112.141. The number of off-street parking spaces supplied at this site is sufficient for this use. According to Brian Slovenski, President of Atlantic Parking Services, a valet parking company in Portsmouth, a host can expect to park a maximum of 50% of cars for attendees at any given event. Most guests will carpool or Uber to an event. Pursuant to the submitted parking demand analysis, there is clearly excess parking supply during the anticipated peak hours for the proposed use.

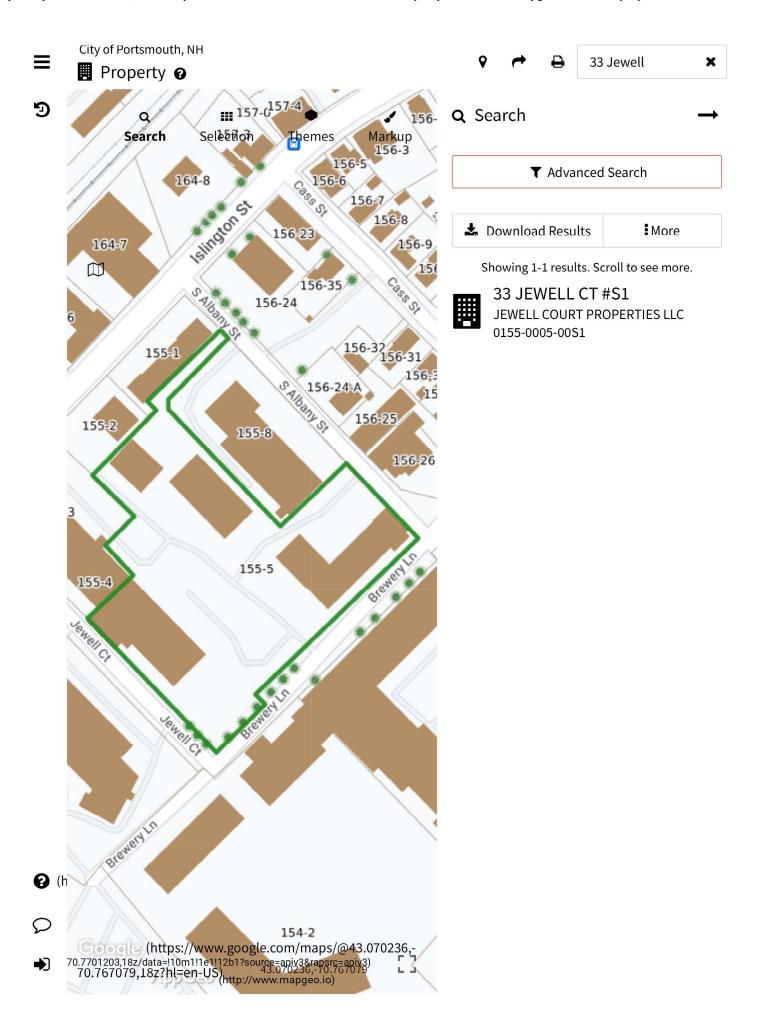
10.1112.142. The applicant's operation involves no staff on site and clients utilizing the facility will be contractually required to utilize shuttle or valet service over and above the spaces that the condominium association has allocated to 33 Jewell Court. In addition, parking for this site is within the regulatory purview the condominium association, which would have the authority to establish appropriate rules and regulations in the unlikely event parking becomes problematic as a result of this use.

10.1112.143. The number of spaces is adequate and appropriate for the proposed use of the property given the factors enumerated above.

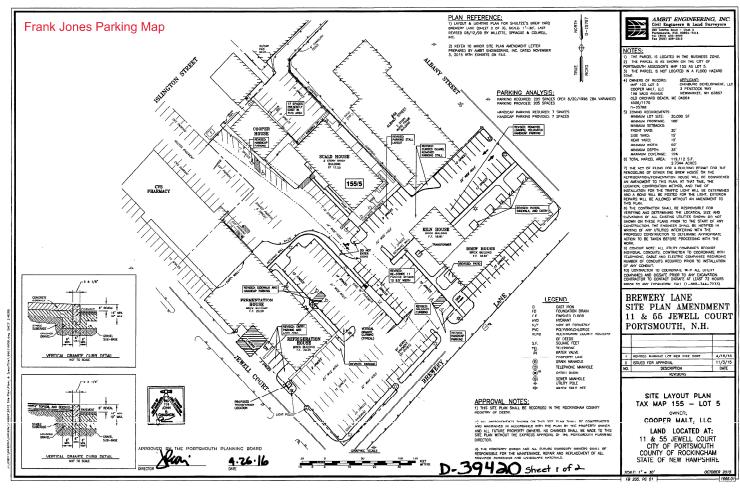
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

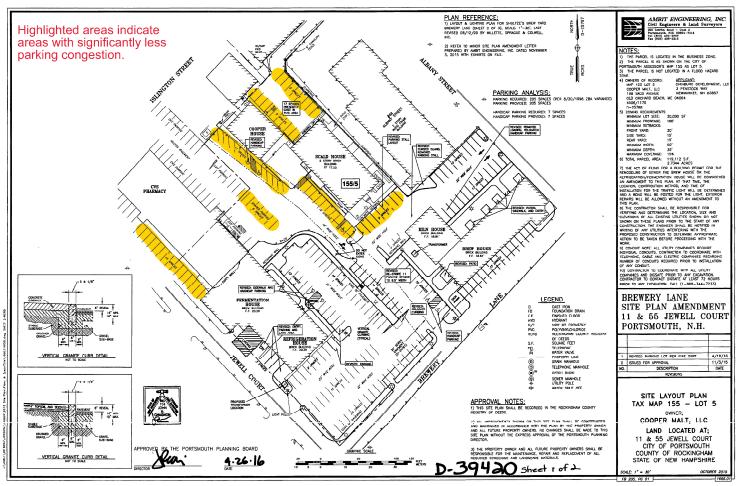
John K. Bosen
John K. Bosen

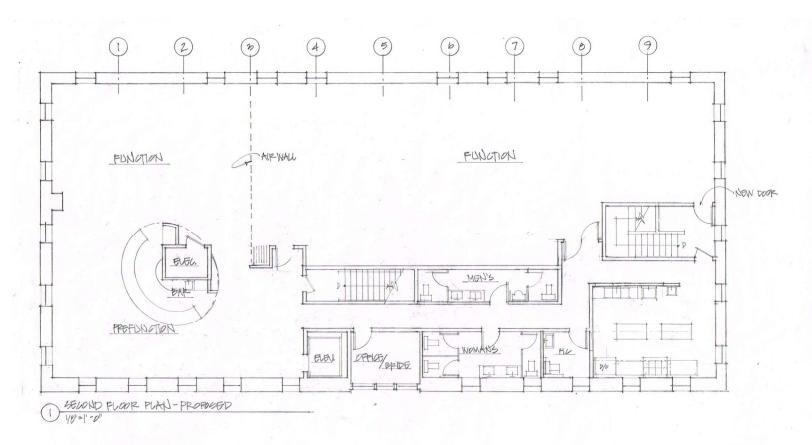


1 of 1 12/15/2023, 9:48 AM



2016 APR 27 AM 9: (1 016328







### 33 Jewell Court

Portsmouth, NH

PROPOSED
FLOR
PLAN
PENISEP
SK-045
11.27.2023

### A) PARKING CALC – 33 JEWELL COURT (Includes entire Schultz Brew Yard Condominium Association \*)

City				
Use #	Туре	Use / SF	spaces / SF	required
	COOPER HOUSE			
13.10	Wholesale:	2,500 SF	1/2000	2
5.10	Office:	2,500 SF	1/350	8
	SCALD HOUSE (33 Jewell Court)			
20.10	Storage/Facilities:	2,241 SF	N/A	0
9.10	Function Room:	3,800 SF	1/100	38
5.10	Office:	3,459 SF	1/350	10
	KILN/MALT aka BREW HOUSE			
	Residential	52 Units	1.3/Unit	68 **
	REFRIGERATION/FERMENTATION			
9.10	Restaurant:	3,000 SF	1/100	30
	Kitchen (per special exception in 1996)	1,500 SF	1/1000	2
5.10	Office:	17,052 SF	1/350	49
	Residential	16 Units	1.3/Unit	21 **
**	Residential Visitor Parking	68 Units	1/5 Units	14
TOTAL	PARKIING REQUIREMENT			242

<sup>\*</sup>Variance was obtained in 1996 to permit 205 spaces where 245 were required under the then current ordinance.



### CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

Planning & Sustainability
Department
1 Junkins Avenue
Portsmouth, New
Hampshire 03801
(603) 610-7216

### **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

January 29, 2024

Jewell Court Properties LLC 30 Spring Street Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

RE: Board of Adjustment request for property located at 33 Jewell Court Unit S1 (LU-23-205)

Dear Property Owner:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday**, **January 23**, **2024**, considered your application for establishing an event venue serving up to 250 people which requires a Special Exception from Section 10.440, Use # 9.42 where it is permitted by Special Exception. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 155 Lot 5-S1 and lies within the Character District 4-W (CD4W). As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to **grant** the special exception.

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/planportsmouth/zoning-board-adjustment/zoning-board-adjustment-archived-meetings-and-material

The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor

John K. Bosen, Attorney, Bosen and Associates PLLC

# Findings of Fact | Special Exception City of Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment

Date: <u>1-23-2024</u>

Property Address: 33 Jewell Court, Unit \$1

Application #: LU-23-205

Decision: Grant

**Findings of Fact:** 

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. The decision shall include specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

The proposed application meets/does not meet the following purposes for granting a Special Exception:

Special Exception Review Criteria: Section 10.232.20	Finding	Relevant Facts
10.232.21 Standards as provided by this Ordinance for the particular use permitted by special exception;	Yes	The use is allowed by special exception.
10.232.22 No hazard to the public or adjacent property on account of potential fire, explosion or release of toxic materials.	Yes	<ul> <li>It is a dense intermingling of entertainment, hospitality, and residential use.</li> <li>Allowing the special exception will not have a detrimental impact on surrounding properties, particularly since a sound study was performed that addressed the one potential concern with noise level.</li> </ul>
10.233.23 No detriment to property values in the vicinity or change in the essential characteristics of any area including residential neighborhoods or business and industrial districts on account of the location or scale of buildings and other structures, parking greas, accessways, odor, smoke, gas,	Yes	<ul> <li>The parking will be contained to the condo association, so there is really no impact on the general public.</li> <li>Allowing the special exception will not have a detrimental impact on surrounding properties, particularly</li> </ul>

dust, or other pollutant, noise, glare, heat, vibration, or unsightly outdoor storage of equipment, vehicles or other materials;		since a sound study was performed that addressed the one potential concern with noise level.
10.233.24 No creation of a traffic safety hazard or a substantial increase in the level of traffic congestion in the vicinity;  10.233.25 No excessive demand on municipal	Yes	<ul> <li>The shuttle service will transport lots of people with a smaller number of vehicles.</li> <li>It is a congested traffic area but the applicant stated that they will require the use of either a valet or shuttle service parking.</li> <li>No changes are being done to the</li> </ul>
services, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, waste disposal, police and fire protection and schools; and	Yes	building externally.
10.232.26 No significant increase of stormwater runoff onto adjacent property or streets.	Yes	No changes are being done to the building externally.

#### PARKING DEMAND ANALYSIS

#### 33 Jewell Court

### PORTSMOUTH, NH

LU-23-205

February 26, 2024

33 Jewell Court is part of a condominium association consisting of four stand-alone buildings with a mixture of residential and commercial uses.

The number of off street parking spaces required under the City of Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance is 242. The number of spaces provided is 205. A parking calculation has been submitted. The applicant and other members of the condominium association have never experienced a parking shortage despite this non-compliance with Section 10.1110 Off Street Parking requirements.

The applicant's property at 33 Jewell Court is allocated 28 parking spaces by the association. However, per the condominium agreement, all 205 spaces are available to all members on a first come first serve basis. This has historically been sufficient to more than meet its needs when the property was utilized exclusively as office space. The proposal to convert 3,800 square feet of space to event space, which would be utilized primarily on weekend evenings, is not expected to place greater demand on the existing parking.

A recent review of demand during the expected peak utilization periods, summarized below, demonstrates that there will be sufficient parking for this use on site, when coupled with the applicant's stated intention to contractually require clients to utilize valet and/or shuttle services to locate parking off site if the demand exceeds the 28 spaces allocated by the association.

Date	Time	Vacant parking spaces
Friday 2-16-24	5pm	66 out of 205
Saturday 2-17-24	4-5pm	79 out of 205
Sunday 2-18-24	2pm	96 out of 205
Sunday 2-18-24	5pm	87 out of 205

Thus, it is the applicant's position that the existing on-site parking will be more than adequate for the expected demand.

# 33 Jewell Court Weekend Parking Snapshots

Below we've captured photos and parking vacancies in the parking lot of the Frank Jones buildings, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 16, 17 & 18th, 2024

Friday, 2/16, 5PM

66 vacant parking spots out of 205 at 5PM







**Saturday, 2/17, 4PM & 5PM** 

79 vacant parking spots out of 205 at 5PM

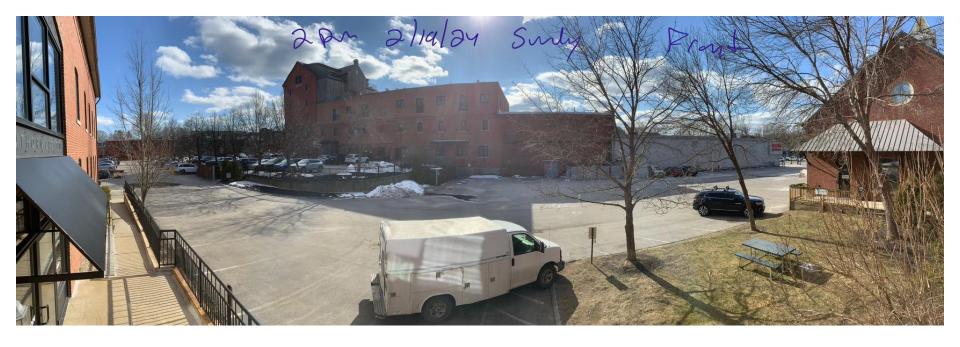


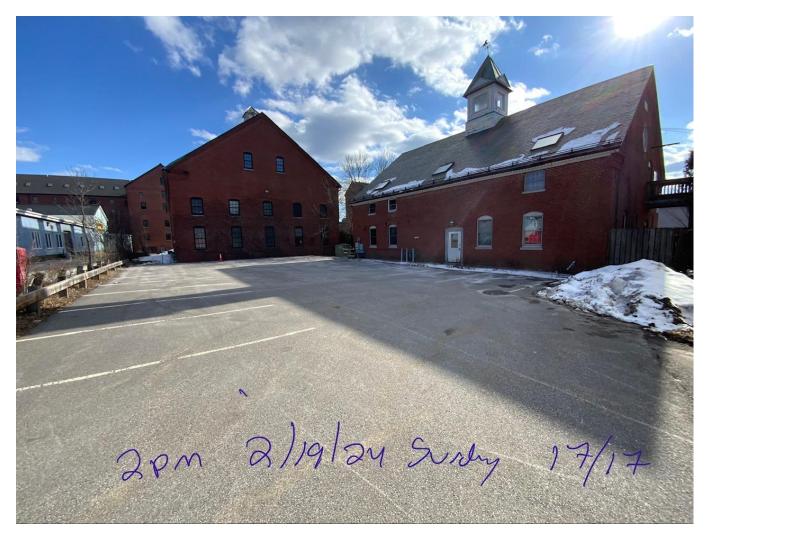




Sunday, 2/18, 2PM

96 vacant parking spots out of 205







Sunday, 2/18, 5PM

87 of 205 vacant parking spots







**John K. Bosen** Admitted in NH & MA

Christopher P. Mulligan Admitted in NH & ME

Molly C. Ferrara
Admitted in NH & ME

Austin Mikolaities
Admitted in NH

Bernard W. Pelech 1949 - 2021

March 5, 2024

Mr. Rick Chellman, Chair Planning Board City of Portsmouth 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801

RE: 33 Jewell Court, Tax Map 155, Lot 5-S1

REQUEST FOR PARKING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Dear Mr. Chellman:

Following from the March 5, 2024 Technical Advisory Committee meeting relative to the above project, we are submitting the following documents to supplement our February 28, 2024 application materials:

- 1. Letter of support from Eric Chinburg dated January 3, 2024; and
- 2. Easement Deed of Fairlawn Plaza, Inc. to Schubett Realty Co., Inc. dated June 9, 1997 and Recorded at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds at Book 3242, Page 2917.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

John K. Bosen
John K. Bosen

Eric Chinburg President Schultzes Brew Yard Condominium Association 1/3/2023

Subject: Approval for Launch of Event Venue at 33 Jewell Court

As the President of Schultzes Brew Yard Condominium Association, I'm pleased to officially approve the launch of an event venue at 33 Jewell Court in Portsmouth, NH. It is with great enthusiasm that we support initiatives that enhance the community experience and provide unique spaces where individuals can gather and celebrate.

After careful consideration and review of the proposed plans, it is evident that the event venue aligns with the values of our community and the overall vision of the Condo Association. The historical nature of the property will be preserved and will allow access to a stunning historic event space, unlike anything else being offered here in Portsmouth. All events will be required to utilize shuttles or valet parking at an off-property private parking lot. This will ensure that the use of parking spaces at our association are not impacted and will, in fact reduce the daily parking congestion from regular corporate tenants. I've also reviewed the sound audit by Reuter Associates and understand that sound levels during these events will remain below 45-dba, meeting all sound requirements after 9PM, and therefore will not impact tenants in nearby residential buildings. As an association in the mixed-use Character District, our properties offer an eclectic mix of restaurants, hair salons, artist studios, and residential apartments. I feel that the addition of a historic event venue would reinforce our commitment to building out the West End as a thriving area of town that offers a diverse mix of services.

We appreciate the hard work and dedication of conceptualizing and planning this venture. Jessica's commitment to ensuring that the venue adheres to the guidelines set forth by the City and the Condo Association has not gone unnoticed. We are confident that the event venue will be a valuable addition to our community, offering a range of events that cater to the diverse interests of our town.

Sincerely,

Eric Chinburg President

Schultzes Brew Yard Condominium Association

\* Permanent exclusive parking easement on CVS Property as depicted

of the plans.

as 14 spaces on the southwestern edge

### EASEMENT DEED

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, That FAIRLAWN PLAZA, INC., a Rhode Island corporation with a principal place of business at 835 East Taunton Avenue in East Providence, County of Providence and State of Rhode Island, for consideration paid, grants to SCHUBETT REALTY CO., INC., a New Hampshire corporation with a principal place of business at 698 Islington Street in Portsmouth, County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire, it heirs, successors and assigns,

WITH QUITCLAIM COVENANTS, a perpetual right and easement upon land of the within Grantor located on the northerly side of Jewell Court, so-called, in Portsmouth, County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire, said property having been acquired by the Grantor by deed recorded in Rockingham County Registry of Deeds at Book 3065, Page 1425; and to allow the Grantee, its heirs, successors, assigns, and business invitees, exclusive right to park motor vehicles upon the following described portion of the Grantor's premises:

Parking Easement: Beginning at the southwesterly corner of land of the within Grantee on the northerly sideline of Jewell Court, so-called, thence turning and running N 45° 38' 00" E a distance of 22 feet, more or less, along the westerly face of the building upon land of Grantee to a point at the southerly face of the building on land of the Grantor; thence turning and running northwesterly along the southerly face of the building of the Grantor a distance of 125 feet, more or less, to a leading dock projecting from the building of the Grantor; thence running in a southwesterly direction 22 feet, more or less, to the northerly sideline of Jewell Court; thence turning and running in a southeasterly direction along the northerly sideline of Jewell Court, so-called, a distance of 125 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Meaning and intending to convey to the Grantee an exclusive right to park vehicles in a rectangular strip of land approximately 125 feet by 22 feet, located between the northerly sideline of Jewell Court and the southerly sideline of the building on land of the within Grantor.

Also conveying to the Grantee, the right to remove at Grantee's sole expense a certain loading dock and one-story structure located within the demised Easement area at its southerly end. The Grantee shall have the right to grade and improve the Easement area. Grantee shall be responsible for any and all maintenance and snow removal within the Easement area.

The within Easement shall be binding upon and shall inherit to the benefit of the Grantor, Grantee, and each of their heirs, successors and assigns.

Executed this  $g^{th}$  day of  $f_{VNE}$ , 1997.

FAIRLAWN PLAZA, INC.

Name & Robert Pesce

### B3242 P2918

	Title: JRESIDEIT
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE, SS.	
TRESIDERI	, 1997, personally appeared the above, in his/her capacity as of Fairlawn Plaza, Inc., being known to me and
	regoing Easement Deed voluntarily and for the tion as whose behalf he was duly authorized to act.
	alucio ta Lucio de la

