



Eight Streets Neighborhood Association
South End, Boston, Massachusetts
www.eighstreets.org

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February 10, 2010

Licensing Board for the City of Boston

Boston City Hall
Room 809
1 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

To Whom it May Concern,

At February 3, 2010 meeting of the Eight Streets Neighborhood Association, Felino Sampson, owner and chef of the restaurant Pops, located at 560 Tremont St, Boston, MA, came to the monthly association meeting to ask for our support for extending the restaurant closing time from Midnight to 1am, 7 days a week.

Mr. Sampson is requesting that his liquor license be amended to extend the closing time from Midnight to 1am, 7 days a week. He felt that the extended closing time would better serve his customers. Some ESNA members were in support of the extended closing hour. But many direct abutters complained that many noise issues at the rear of the restaurant had not been adequately addressed. During a previous presentation by Pops to ESNA several months ago, issues of employee smoking, chatter and general restaurant noise at the rear of the restaurant were excessive. Pops back onto a residential alley where any noise carries into residential homes. At the Feb 3rd meeting, many abutters said their complaints of noise at the rear of the restaurant had gone unresolved, and did not wish to support an extension of hours while said issues remained unresolved. Residents were also concerned that a later closing time meant that clean-up time would also go an hour later, which would be a hardship during weekdays.

The Eight Streets Membership voted to *not support* the extension of closing hours at this time. Pops met with ESNA leadership after the meeting and agreed to work with ESNA to get any outstanding noise issues addressed in the coming months.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns on this subject.

Thank you.

Regards,

Heather Slaby (JMc)
Board Member
Eight Streets Neighborhood Association

CC:

Felino Samson, 560 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02118 Tabitha Bennett, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood Coordinator for the South End & Bay Village, Room 708, One City Hall Plaza , Boston, MA 02201