

**LICENSES AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
LICENSE INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

**License Number:** L196-50285

**Police File Number:** F. 13804

**Date of Application:** February 23, 2016

**Inspector:** Greg Buenning

**Applicant/Legal Entity:** Stem Holdings, LLC

**DBA/Trade Name:** Stem Wine Bar

**Complete Address:** 24 University Avenue NE, Suite 125  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

**License(s) Requested:** On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class "E" and Sidewalk Café License

**License History of Location:** There is not a current license in suite 125, but JL Beers has a current Wine with Strong Beer Class "E" license at this address in suite 100.

**Purpose of Application:** To obtain a new On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales and Sidewalk Café License

**Responsible person within 75 miles of Minneapolis City Hall:** Ivy J. Taheri

**Public Hearing Required:** A public hearing is required

**Neighborhood/Ward:** Nicollet Island/East Bank/Ward 3

**Zoning:** C3A/PO

**7 Acre Requirement:** Met

**Off-Street Parking:** The office of the City of Minneapolis Zoning Administrator has determined that three off-street parking spaces are required. This has been met.

**Seating:** Interior: 53 Exterior: 6  
Total Square feet: 1,800  
Food Service Counter: 10

**Fire Occupancy:** Interior: 63 Maximum Capacity of Exterior: 26

**Hours of Operation Proposed:** Interior: 4:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.  
Exterior: 4:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.  
**Hours of Food Service:** All hours of operation  
**Reduced Menu Hours:** No

**Food Service Requirement:** Met  
Health Risk: 2

**Alcohol Server Training:** Stem Wine Bar has contracted with Alcohol Compliance Service to do their alcohol server training. They will commence training before the business opens or within 30 days of opening. Alcohol compliance training will be given to pertinent employees on at least an annual basis by a qualified outside training provider. Employees will be required to check for proper identification from all patrons ordering or being served alcohol who appear to be under 35 years of age. All staff will be trained to not admit or serve intoxicated persons.

**Metropolitan Council Service Availability Charges:** 8

### **Applicant**

The applicant is Stem Holdings, LLC, a Minnesota company formed on September 17, 2015. They are registered under chapter 322C, File #842665300022 of the Minnesota statutes. The applicant has provided documentation showing adequate, legal, and traceable funding for this venture. They have the required stock restriction on the transfer of shares and have the following shareholders and officers:

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Title</b>                 | <b>Shares</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Ivy J. Taheri                | CEO/Chief Manager/CFO/Member | 25%           |
| CSI Holdings (Igor Epshteyn) | Member                       | 75%           |

### **Manager**

Ivy Taheri will be the manager of Stem Wine Bar. She has 17 years of experience in the hospitality industry, starting from the bottom and up. She has held every position, from table bus girl, to hostess, to prep cook, to server, bartender, and then into management. She has a thorough knowledge of the business and assisted her husband in opening The Tangiers in the North Loop.

### **Premises**

The premises will be located at 24 University Avenue SE. It is a multi-story building. The business will operate in 1,800 square feet of space on the first floor. They will have 53 indoor seats for patrons including 10 seats at a bar dining counter. There will be 6 outdoor seats on their approved sidewalk café on University Avenue NE. The sidewalk café will have no speakers.

### **Business Plan/Operations**

Stem Wine Bar will offer a dining experience featuring a hybrid of contemporary meets vintage interior, with warm, ambient lighting, richly-hued colors and candles creating a glowing, cozy, and inviting interior. Most seating areas are booth style and created to be all about comfort, scenery, and relaxation while enjoying wine varietals paired with menu items to delight the palate. They will have a rich selection of wines by the glass and bottle, as well as an American fusion menu featuring small plates, unique charcuterie and cheese selections making Stem Wine Bar a unique and inviting destination place. Some menu items include Korean BBQ meatballs, crab cakes, sweet potato fries, jambalaya, pork, flatbread items, and a variety of salads. The business will have security cameras in various places inside, including the bar dining area, entrances, and a common area near the restrooms. The system can be monitored from the office and remotely by

management and ownership. Stem Wine Bar has not yet determined if they will have outdoor speakers, but if they do they will turn all speakers down at 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 12:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Stem Wine Bar will have defined tools for their staff to use for their exit strategy. Last call will occur no later than 1:45 a.m. on nights they are open until 2:00 a.m. At 2:00 a.m. lights will go up and staff will encourage patrons to finish any drinks they might have left. The sidewalk café will close no later than 2:00 a.m. They will work cooperatively with their neighbors, JL Beers and Keegan's Pub to ensure there is no loitering after hours. A security presence will remain outdoors for 30 minutes after closing time. Management will work with Minneapolis Police to escort potentially problematic guests away from the area. The business is close to the MPD Substation which also serves as a deterrent.

**License Conditions**

None

**Public Hearing Summary**

A public hearing for this license application will be held on March 22, 2016, in City Council chambers, Room 317, 350 S. 5th Street. On March 9, 2016, 626 notices were mailed to residents and property owners within 600 feet of the premises, and 8 multi-family dwellings were also posted. An electronic hearing notice was e-mailed to Council Member Jacob Frey, Nicollet Island-East Bank Neighborhood Association, Historic Northeast Business Association.

**Police review**

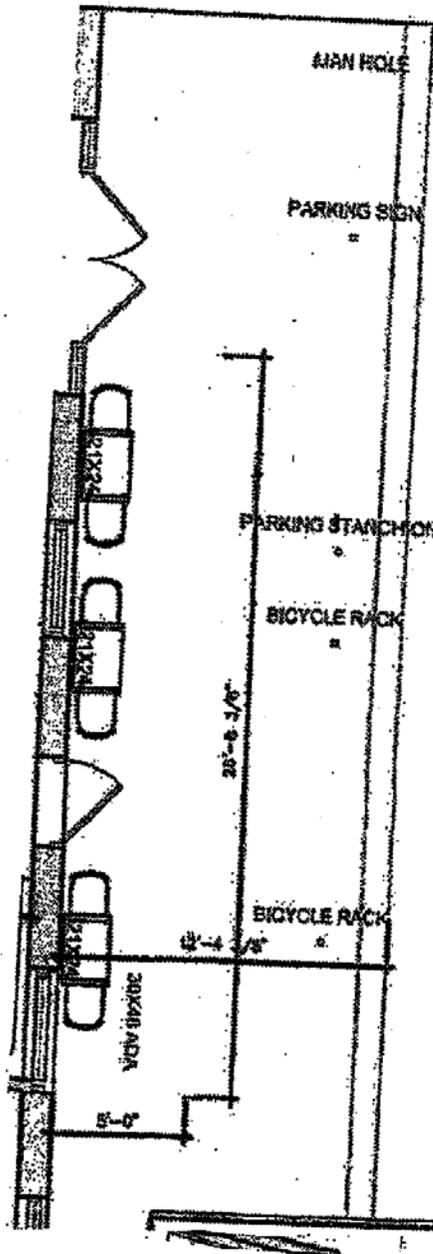
The Minneapolis Police Licensing Division has reviewed the applicant's financial and criminal history. They have determined the application meets the necessary requirements.

**Recommendation**

Licenses and Consumer Services Division recommends the approval of an On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class "E" license.

Diagram is on the next page.

Approved ☺  
MSms 2-25-16



S.E. UNIVERSITY AVENUE

**STEM WINE BAR**

24 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
SUITE 125  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
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