

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: May 10, 2022

To: Mayor and Town Council

Via: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

From: Wayne Bergman, Director of Planning, Zoning & Building



Re: Outdoor Café Permit Extension Discussion

Date: April 27, 2022

GENERAL INFORMATION

Staff was requested to place this discussion matter on the May 10, 2022 Town Council agenda and to explain the status of the current Covid-19 Temporary outdoor seating program, which is scheduled to end immediately after this Memorial Day weekend. There is some concern that many of the restaurants that enjoy the temporary outdoor seating may not be aware of the end of the seating program. There is also concern with the fact Covid-19 cases are increasing in the State. Both of these concerns warrant a discussion on whether the seating program should end in another month.

There are twenty restaurants that took advantage of the Covid outdoor seating. The list is attached. The Town sent letters to the twenty restaurant operators, twice, announcing the end of the Covid-19 temporary outdoor seating. The first letter was mailed in October, 2021, and the second letter was mailed in February, 2022. Both letters are also attached.

Status of requests or interest in converting temporary outdoor seating to permanent outdoor seating are as follows:

- Meat Market – special exception was requested to continue their outdoor seating, later withdrawn by the applicant.
- La Bar a Vin - special exception was requested to continue their outdoor seating, later denied by Council. Staff believes that a new application is being considered.
- Bricktops - special exception was requested to continue their outdoor seating, later withdrawn by the applicant.
- Esplanade – first and second floor outdoor seating for Cojimar, later withdrawn by the applicant.
- Café L'Europe – special exception application recently made, to be heard in July.
- Club Collette – special exception application recently made, to be heard in July.

- La Goulue – Staff believes that the owner is exploring permanent outdoor seating options and may be working on an application.
- Surfside Diner – inquiries made of staff, owner possibly working on an application.
- Royal Poinciana Plaza – owner is aware of the expiration date. The theater restaurant application will include a special exception for outdoor seating.
- Coyo Taco, one of the twenty restaurants on the list, closed last year.
- A few of the restaurants that took advantage of the Covid-19 temporary seating already had approved outdoor seating, including Bice and Main Street –they may not apply.
- Another one or two restaurants may never make the special exception request as they probably cannot meet the new sidewalk dimensional requirements of five feet.

Attachments: List of restaurants enjoying the temporary outdoor seating
Letters, dated October 15, 2021& February 10, 2022

WRB