

Plan commission gives green light to design for Homewood Brewing

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Homewood Brewing Company got an enthusiastic reception from the Homewood Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday, Feb. 10, for its planned restaurant and brewery, unanimously approving the plan with a few changes.

The company plans to build on the site of the former Bogart's Charhouse at 18225 Dixie Highway. Co-owner Carmela Wallace said the plan calls for groundbreaking this spring and opening for business sometime in mid to late 2023.

The commission approved the consolidation of five separate lots at that address into one. The legal fragmentation of the site complicated the village's efforts to acquire the property for several years.

Architect Mike Matthys of Flossmoor, representing the Linden Group, unveiled the design of the two-story, 11,480-square-foot building, which will include a brew house, a taproom, dining room, kitchen and an outdoor terrace seating area. The main entrance will be on the south side of the building facing Miller Court with an outdoor seating area along Dixie Highway.

"We wanted to design something that had a unique image but also fit well in Homewood," Matthys said.

Commissioners concerns were mostly on the tight use of space. The building will cover nearly all the site between the property line on the north and the line on the south. The property is bordered by an alley on the north side and Miller Court on the south.

Matthys explained the plans for parking and for moving delivery trucks in and out of the property.

Two people who reside near the proposed development spoke during the meeting, not to object to the project but to request some protection for their property from the increased vehicle traffic on Miller Court.

Commissioners agreed to add a requirement for a protective barrier along the south edge of Miller Court.

Commissioners also asked for a revision to the design to improve sight lines on the northwest and southwest corners of the building where vehicles will be entering and exiting the property.

The commission also approved a landscaping variance. The southeast portion of the property will have a smaller percentage of parking islands than required.



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