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TAUNTON, MA

CITY OF TAUNTON
BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

CITY CLERK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

August 16, 2023 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Peter C. Lamb, Chairman
Brendan Mullen, Commissioner
Steven Turner, Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Lamb.

Commissioner Mullen makes a motion to accept the minutes to the July 19, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Turner seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

St. Anthony Church, 126 School Street – Application for a Special Alcohol Permits for 9/23/23, 11/11/23, 2/10/24 from 5:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. and 5/19/24 from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.:

Lorinda Camara Vice President of Holy Ghost present on behalf of the applicant. They are going to be having 4 family oriented parish dinners usually with a DJ and an average of 250-300 people in attendance for each dinner. The alcohol is usually delivered the day of and picked up by the day after. The only detail they have ever had is for the feast. Chairman Lamb states that since there is live entertainment and they are expecting 250-300 in attendance, the board would like the applicant to submit a Request for Waiver of Police Detail.

Commissioner Mullen makes a motion to approve the following events and dates conditional on the application for police detail waiver: September 23rd through the 25th; November 11th through the 13th; February 10th of 2024 through February 12th; and May 19th through 21st. Those dates are to allow the alcohol to be stored and picked up by the distributors on the Monday after the event. Commissioner Turner seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Riverhouse Weir Village, Inc., 260 West Water Street: Amendment – Change or Alteration of Premises Information:

Attorney Ryan Prophett, Cheryl Latour, Aurelio Sousa and Jacqueline Sousa present on behalf of the applicant. Attorney Prophett states they moved an interior wall in order to extend the kitchen so that the prep area in the kitchen could be increased. Ms. Latour states

Commissioner Mullen makes a motion to approve the alteration of premises. Commissioner Turner seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Riverhouse Weir Village, Inc., 260 West Water Street: Application for Amendment Change of Officers, Stock or Ownership Interest:

Attorney Ryan Prophett, Cheryl Latour, Aurelio Sousa and Jacqueline Sousa present on behalf of the applicant. Attorney Prophett states that there were other shareholders who have all sold their interest to Mr. Sousa and his wife Jackie. There has also been a change in officers where now Mr. Sousa is the president of the corporation. There is no change in management of the restaurant.

Commissioner Turner makes a motion to approve the application for Amendment Change of Officers, Stock or Ownership Interest. Commissioner Mullen seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Old Colony History Museum, 66 Church Green: Application for a Special Alcohol Permit for October 21, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.:

Sariah Sweeny Community Programing Coordinator present on behalf of the applicant. The license is for the Liberty and Union Festival beer tent to be operated by Berkley Beer with a TIPS certified server. The event is on

Commissioner Mullen makes a motion to approve the Application for a Special Alcohol Permit for October 21, 2023. Commissioner Turner seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Cook in a Box, 577 Winthrop Street: Application for a Common Victualler License:

Commissioner Turner makes a motion to approve the application pending the proper paperwork from the Board of Health. Commissioner Mullen seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Old Business/New Business:

88 Wales, Inc. d/b/a Bar 88, 88 Wales Street: Change of Manager and Change of Hours and discussions regarding not being open during stated hours:

John Paul Thomas President and owner of Bar 88, 88 Wales, Inc. He thinks that he might be applying to change his license type. He is still unsure as to whether or not he would reopen as a restaurant and that functions are what he excels in. He would like to do some research and will then decide whether or not he wants to apply to change his license type. He spoke with the ABCC earlier in the day and is going to do some research and come back to the board when he figures out what he would like to do. Ideally he would like to stay as a restaurant, but it's not feasible at the moment. He would like to continue his closure for another month. Commissioner Turner asks if 30 days is long enough for him to make his decision. He says yes. He will be closed through the next meeting scheduled for September 20th.

Commissioner Mullen makes a motion to continue the discussion on Bar 88 to September 20th barring any notification from the owner. Commissioner Turner seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

700 Taunton LLC d/b/a Holiday Inn, 700 Myles Standish Blvd.:

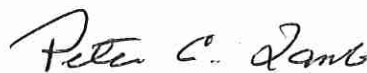
Attorney Gregory Demakis, District Manager Jeff Twilliger and Asst. Manager Carina Albernez present. Attorney Demakis states that the owners are unable to reopen and operate the restaurant per their contract with the state, but they would still like to host events. The ABCC told him that it is a local decision, but they wouldn't have a problem with them operating in a reduced footprint for events only. He told them that they could apply for a change of license type. Chairman Lamb states that the ABCC told them basically the same thing. He also states that other license holders have given definitive guidelines as to how they are going to operate. They all operate with consistent hours like a restaurant. He thinks they need to start from scratch because there is a significant change in how they are operating. He wants to see consistency. Attorney Demakis states they can give them consistency in the areas where service would be, but not for the hours. He states that the holiday season is coming up and they won't know what days they will be because they aren't booked yet. Chairman Lamb states that they are looking for consistency of hours in which the events will be held. He doesn't think it would be unreasonable to have a general time frame in which events will be held. Commissioner Mullen agrees that they need some consistency. Chairman Lamb states that they need to be able to know what is going on at the hotel to keep an eye out on the venue. Mr. Twilliger states they have a variety of events and they don't all include alcohol. He wants to know if that is something that needs to be considered as well or just the times they serve alcohol. Chairman Lamb states just events where there is a sale of alcohol and entertainment. He doesn't want an extensive list, just a sense of what they are doing. Commissioner Mullen asks how they keep the hotel occupants out of the event area. Mr. Twilliger says they do their best to mitigate and they try to redirect when they see them to prevent them from disturbing the events. Commissioner

Turner has heard that there was an issue with occupants of the hotel trying to sneak into a function. Mr. Twilliger state they do have the detail there at the hotel to be a presence for anything that pops up. He states that they will speak with the police details to make sure all information is relayed to the hotel staff. The detail is there for the hotel to mitigate any potential issues and triages that may come up. Commissioner Mullen heard that someone that held a wedding reception at the hotel was told they needed to hire a detail for the event. Mr. Twilliger states that they have not required that. Attorney Demakis asks if they can submit a plan that would show the rooms they would like to serve alcohol in instead of filing for an alteration of premises. He states that Ralph Sacamore had told him that they could just lessen the premises on a temporary basis. An alteration of premises would involve advertising and notifying abutters. Chairman Lamb states they want something more formal. Attorney Demakis wants to come back at the next hearing prepared and asks if they are looking for an alteration of premises and a business plan that describes their operations for the next meeting. Chairman Lamb states that when you call the ABCC you get a different answer depending on who you speak to. He would like to see an alteration of premises and the business plan. Chairman Lamb states they want to know how they plan on operating. Commissioner Mullen states that control of the alcohol is important and they need to know how they plan on operating. Attorney Demakis asks if they run into time constraints, can they put it on for the October meeting. Chairman Lamb states yes.

Commissioner Turner makes a motion to continue the hearing pending the business plan and the other paperwork they will be submitting until September 20th. Commissioner Mullen seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Commissioner Turner makes a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mullen seconds the motion. Unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



Peter C. Lamb, Chairman

Brendan Mullen, Commissioner



Steven Turner, Commissioner

Document List:

- Minutes of July 19, 2023 meeting
- Application for a Special Alcohol Permit submitted by St. Anthony Church
- Amendment – Change or Alteration of Premises Information submitted by Riverhouse Weir Village Inc.
- Application for Amendment Change of Officers, Stock or Ownership Interest submitted by Riverhouse Weir Village Inc.
- Application for a Common Victualler License submitted by Cook in a Box