

**Meeting Minutes  
Board of License Commissioners  
Caroline County, Maryland**

**DATE:** Wednesday, August 22, 2018

**PLACE:** Health & Public Services Building  
403 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 110  
Denton, Maryland 21629

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Greg Eigenbrode, Chairman  
Nick Loukides, Vice-Chairman  
Glen Plutschak, Member  
Michael Mann, Alternate

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Crystal Dadds, Assistant Director of Codes  
Phillip Moore, Alcoholic Beverage Inspector  
Heather Price, County Attorney

Chairman Eigenbrode called the meeting of the Caroline County Board of License Commissioners to order at 9:30 a.m.

## **SHOW/CAUSE HEARINGS**

Ms. Dadds announced that the Show/Cause hearings for Dave's Place and Preston Super Soda were granted a postponement. Their hearings were rescheduled for September 26, 2018. Mr. Plutschak asked if the administrative fees were paid. Ms. Dadds stated that both had paid the required fees for a postponement.

## **TEMPORARY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

### **SUPPER AT SUNSET – DOWNTOWN DENTON MAIN STREET – September 15, 2018**

Marina Dowdall stated that this will be the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Supper at Sunset event that has been held at various locations within the County. This year's location will be along the 200 block of Market Street. The supper was held at this location two years ago. The roads will be blocked off to accommodate the event. Ms. Dowdall described it as an elegant dinner affair from 6-9 pm with beer and wine included in the ticket price. There will be easy listening music playing in the background. This is a fundraiser event for Downtown Denton Main Street. There is a maximum of 80 tickets available. They are charging \$50.00 per person and \$95.00 per couple. The Visitor's Center at the Denton boat ramp has been reserved, should it rain.

Mr. Eigenbrode asked if there would be an issue with the Market Street Pub. The Pub is located on that block of Market Street and have outdoor seating. Ms. Dadds confirmed that she spoke with the Pub's owner, Brian Tyler, who he stated that he supported the event. It is a fundraiser that promotes the downtown area where his business is located.

**Motion:** Mr. Loukides made a motion to approve the license.

**Second:** Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.

**In Favor:** The motion was unanimously approved (3-0).

### **FDR RETELLING OF THE 1938 STORY – CC HISTORICAL SOCIETY – September 3, 2018**

Kathy Mackel stated that the Historical Society holds two fundraising events each year, one in the summer and one at Christmas time. This event celebrates the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt's visit to the town of Denton in 1938.

They will have a Cocktail Party from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Beer and wine are included in the Ticket sales. There will be no bartender however, two TIPS certified members will be present during the event. It will be held at Ms. Mackel's home on First Street in Denton. The premise area will include the gated rear yard directly behind the house, the deck and pool area. There will be no live music.

**Motion:** Mr. Plutschak made a motion to approve the license, adding that they have had several events without any issues.

**Second:** Mr. Loukides seconded the motion.

**In Favor:** The motion was unanimously approved (3-0).

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **BETH BREWSTER (CULINARY CENTER) – LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR BARTENDING SCHOOL**

Beth updated the Board on the Culinary Center's plans to develop a bartending school. Bartending is a position that involves a risk (of overserving, et al). They are interested in conduction wine classes as well. Her goal is to build tourism and economic development in the County and she would like to start with a bartending school. The program would run through Chesapeake College with a target age range of maybe 21-30-year old's. Ms. Brewster intended to a hold a happy hour each month to allow the students to practice their skills. It was uncertain as to whether a legislative change would be needed but after review, it was determined that bartending schools are not regulated by the alcoholic beverage laws, only to the extent that it involves sales of alcohol. It was decided that she could purchase a per diem license for the once-a-month events, but she will approach the Board later to discuss how this would work.

There was also discussion about whether the Culinary Center could hold a multiple event license and purchase individual per diem licenses for those events that they cater off-site. It was determined that Section 15-1308 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article states "instead of issuing individual event licenses (per diem), the Board may issue a multiple event license. A multiple event license shall be issued for one premise only." This would mean that they could purchase a

multiple event license for a maximum of 40 events per calendar year for one location (Culinary Center) or they could purchase a maximum of 12 per diem licenses for multiple locations. The law does authorize the Board to issue both.

### **MATRIX PROJECT ASSIGNMENT, CONTINUED**

The Board heard Ms. Price, County Attorney, present the following guidelines regarding Alcoholic Beverage requirements in the State law:

1. **Only one specific fine.** The only provision of state law that dictates what fines can be set by the Board is *Division II, Section 15-1902*. This Section sets a penalty at \$100 for a first offense and \$500 for each subsequent offense or a suspension/revocation or both for Alcohol Awareness (Certified on Premise)
2. **Misdemeanors.** Other provisions of the state law (both state-wide and local state laws) that provide for specific penalties are *misdemeanors* and subject therefore to criminal action – and not the Board’s jurisdiction.
3. **General provision.** All provisions that allow for suspension or revocation (not dealing with misdemeanors), are subject to a fine not exceeding \$2,500 or suspension/revocation nor both for any violation *that is cause* for such. *See Division II, Section 15-2802*
4. **Cause for suspension.** The Board can suspend or revoke for discretion and mandatory reasons. *See Division I, Title 4, Subtitle 6 (4-604)*
  - a. **Nudity exemption.** It is not mandatory in Caroline County to suspend/revoke for nudity violations.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Ms. Dadds updated the Board on the status of the Taphouse’s permit application. They received their Individual Storage Permit from the Comptroller’s Office - issued on 8/6/18 and expires 10/31/18.

The following items were approved by unanimous consent:

- 404 Taphouse - Written Opinion and Decision
- July 25, 2018 minutes

### **INSPECTOR’S REPORT**

Inspector Moore went over his inspections for the month.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There being nothing further to discuss Chairman Eigenbrode adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

### **BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS**

Nicholas Loukides, Vice-Chairman

  
Minutes prepared by: Crystal Dadds