

Minutes of the Licensing Board Meeting Held Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Attending: Greg Mitrakas, Chairman; David Bouvier, Member; Mary Jo Nawrocki, Member, Tina Nolin, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mitrakas at 7:00 pm.

New Business

1. Application for One-day Liquor Stevie's Café and Catering at Masonic Hall (2 applications) Stevie Dembro, owner, attended

Member Bouvier motioned to approve all five applications; Member Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

2. Application for One-day Liquor Kith & Kin at Lost Shoe (1 application). Melynda Gallagher, co-owner of the Lost Shoe, attended

This was for a Mother's Day event at Lost Shoe. Weed Street would be closed; drinks would only be served and drunk outside of Lost Shoe in the designated area of their outside seating. Only mimosas and wine drinks could be served.

Member Nawrocki motioned to approve the applications; Member Bouvier seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

3. Application for a License Transfer of an On-Premises All Alcohol License - Trinidad Estrella, LLC (DBA Yvette's Mexican Grill & Cantina), Jose Moreno Estrella, Manager, 820 Boston Post Road E

The public meeting was opened to the public at 6:35

Attorney Chris Flood represented Mr. Estrella. This was a transfer of license from the Halfway Café to Trinidad Estrella, LLC. The applicant comes from experience with 20+ years owning Acapulco's in Sudbury, where he also held an alcohol license.

All servers and bartenders will be TIPS trained, and there will be no function halls and no outside delivery. The hours of operation requested for the liquor license are Sunday thru Saturday from 11:00 am to 1:45 am.

Blanco Moreno from Marlborough spoke on behalf of the owners in favor of the license.

There was no opposition to the license. However, several people were present to ask questions and raise issues they hoped would be addressed by the new owners.

Pastor Chacón from the Centro Cristiano Emanuel Church, located at 814 Boston Post Rd E next to the proposed licensee, was concerned about parking as the church is often open during the busy times for the restaurant. They had an agreement with the past owner when it was the Halfway Café but still had some issues. Both parties agreed that they would talk and try to come to a new agreement.

Liz Canella, 894 Boston Post Road E, wondered how the sewer issue would be handled. The previous owner, John Grasso, said that there had been no issues for several years. He also

explained that they pump quarterly and have two inside grease traps and an outside grease trap that has taken care of any problems.

The public hearing was closed, following no more comments or questions from the public at 6:52 pm.

Member Nawrocki began the questions and comments by noting the repair requests listed in the agreement and wondered if all of the repairs had been completed. Mr. Grasso responded in the affirmative. She also reported she was glad the new owners and the church would work on the parking agreement and hoped they could come up with something beneficial to both parties.

Chairman Mitrakas pointed out two areas of the application needing further explanation before sending it to the ABCC to prevent delays on their end. He also expressed concern with the 1:45 am time frame for serving alcohol. He would like to see a Sunday – Thursday time of 11:45 pm and a Friday/Saturday last service at 12:45 am. Then, after six months to a year with no problems, the owners could come back and request another hour if they think it is needed.

Member Bouvier motioned to approve the application with the Sunday – Thursday time of 11:45 pm and a Friday/Saturday last service at 12:45 am. Member Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

4. Application for a New On-Premises Wine & Malts License - Buffalo-Marlborough Associates, LLC (DBA Hampton Inn Marlborough), Melissa Martins, Manager, 277 Boston Post Road W.

This application was tabled until next month.

5. USA Motor Sport, Inc., 433 Maple St, Alvero Cuellar, owner

The Board had Mr. Alvaro in again as they were not happy with the progress they saw at his establishment to get the number of vehicles for sale on the lot down. Chairman Mitrakas read into the record the email sent from the clerk to Mr. Cuellar and his office manager on 2/3/2022 (see attached). After reading the email out loud, Mr. Cuellar was asked if he recalled the email, to which he responded he had. Chairman Mitrakas then relayed how an inspection by the Board the previous week showed as many if not more cars on the lot.

The Chairman then made a motion that Mr. Cuellar was to give the Board Clerk, by Friday, a list of all vehicles on the lot, including the vehicle, make, model, and VIN. Once received, the clerk would give a copy to each board member. If any vehicles are found on the property and not found on the list, he would be before the board for a possible suspension of his license. In addition, there would be spot checks by the Board and/or police.

6. Reports from the Chairman

- Automax Site visit – the Board down to walk the Maple Street lot of Automax.
- Chairman Mitrakas reported that the city solicitor confirmed that the Board has no fining ability, only the ability to suspend licenses.

7. Misc. correspondence and open issues

- Update Pat Scorzelli re: progress with site plan review to change property use for New England AutoMax, Inc dba AutoMax Pre-Owned, 400 Maple Street.

Member Bouvier motioned to accept the email update from Mr. Scorzelli and place it on file. Member Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

- On-premise licensees operating outside dining under the “*Patios/Outdoor Expansions: licensees that have been approved for expanded patio/outdoor service may continue their outdoor operations until April 1, 2023.*”

Member Bouvier motioned to accept the ABCC communication and place it on file. Member Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

- Copy of the ABCC notice and guidelines re: expanded patio/outdoor service

Member Bouvier motioned to accept the ABCC communication and place it on file. Chairman Mitrakas seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

- Letter to all Class 2 license holders re: compliance with the number of vehicles

Chairman Mitrakas motioned to accept the ABCC communication and place it on file. Member Bouvier seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

4. Review minutes from March 30, 2022, meeting

Chairman Mitrakas motioned to approve March 30, 2022, meeting minutes with the removal of Member Nawrocki in attendance via Teams Meeting, which was not the case. Member Bouvier seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote to place the amended minutes from March 30, 2022, meeting on file.

The next meeting of the Licensing Board will be Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

Member Nawrocki motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm; Member Bouvier seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg Mitrakas, Chairman

Dated: 5/27/2022