

**BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND
MINUTES**

On August 10, 2011, the Board of License Commissioners met in Room 003 of the Carroll County Office Building, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Board members Roland Meerdter and Robert Tabler were present as well as John Scruggs, Counsel to the Board; and Nancy David.

10:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m., meeting to discuss proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations, specifically, Rules #1d, #34d, #56 and three (3) new rules regarding Drinking Games, Peace and Safety of the Community and Liquor Tasting Licenses. Several licensees and citizens were in attendance and offered comments on the proposed additions and changes. Those in attendance requested individual notification of rule changes and suggested collecting email addresses of all licensees during the annual renewal process. The renewal application will be changed to request an email address for each licensed establishment.

Rule #1 add (d) – if more than one applicant files for a hearing and only one opening exists, the first complete application received will be considered. No comments from anyone in attendance.

Rule #34 d – revise to read, Class D license will be issued at the rate of one (1) license per five thousand (5,000) people of actual population of each election district. The original proposal stated three thousand (3,000) people of actual population but after input from those in attendance, the Board agreed to change the requirement to 5,000.

Rule #56 –Consumption of alcohol while working. After much discussion by those in attendance, the Board decided not to change this rule as currently written.

New Rule – Drinking Games – Licensed establishment are prohibited from promoting or encouraging drinking games (any game that encourage or require the participant to drink alcoholic beverages). No comments from anyone in attendance.

New Rule – Peace and Safety of the Community – Any establishment licensed by the Board may not be operated in a manner that in the judgment of the Board endangers the peace or safety of the community in which the establishment is located. Comments from those in attendance referred to State laws already in place, specifically, Art. 2B, §16-507(h) and §10-401. Attorney Scruggs will do further research on this proposal.

New Rule – Liquor Tasting License (LT) – The wording from HB 279 will be used for this rule. No comments from anyone in attendance.

Chairman Meerdter expressed his appreciation for the participation of the attendees who showed up and will consider all comments in a reasonable and rational way from the input of the owners. Mr. Tabler stated he was not a member of the Board when these changes were proposed.

11:25 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., the Board addressed the following official business:

1. The minutes from the July 13, 2011, meeting of the Board was approved upon a motion of Mr. Tabler and seconded by Mr. Meerdter.
2. A one-day liquor license application for the Carroll County Technology Council picnic to be held outdoors at the Westminster Island Green on August 11 was presented and approved by the Board.
3. A one-day liquor license application for the Hampstead Ravens Luau to be held outdoors at the Four Seasons Sports Complex on August 13 was presented and approved by the Board.
4. A letter from Joseph Taymans, of the Hampstead American Legion, requesting permission to serve beer outdoors in the pavilion area on August 20 & 21 from 1:00 to 5:00 for two Crab Feeds, was presented and approved by the Board.

5. A letter and drawing from Scott McGee, of Lineboro Village Inn, requesting permission to serve alcoholic beverages in a secured area for an outdoor fundraising even on August 14 for the Ravens Roost #92, was presented and approved by the Board.
6. A letter and layout from Ben Golueke, of Mt. Airy Liquors, requesting a transfer of location within the same shopping center, was presented and approved administratively by the Board, no hearing will be required.
7. A letter and drawing from Bill Woodward, of the United Coon Hunters Association, requesting permission to serve alcoholic beverages outdoors for a crab feast on September 10, was presented and approved by the Board.
8. A letter from Bill Woodward, of the United Coon Hunters Association, requesting a one-day liquor license for a Ravens Kick-off Party on September 11, was presented and approved by the Board.
9. A fax from Dorothy Erb, Manager of Rite Aid Liquors, informing the Board of a change in their Sunday hours of operation was presented.
10. An e-mail from Jessica Windsor, of 1311 Beer & Wine, informing the Board of a change to their hours of operation was presented.
11. A fax and drawing from Marcy Brengle, Manager of the Westminster V.F.W., requesting permission to serve alcohol on the proposed enclosed patio, covered by a roof, was presented and approved by the Board.
12. Attorney Scruggs was unable to locate any information on the Board's prior legislative proposal to increase liquor license fees. The Board requested legislation be submitted in the 2012 Legislative Session to raise the license fee for Class A (currently \$650.00) and Class D (currently \$160.00) licenses to \$1,000.00. When Class A and Class D licenses were changed to include Sunday sales in 2009, no increase from their 6-day license fee was made. Proposals are due to the County Attorney's Office by August 29.
13. Attorney Scruggs informed the Board that the changes to the Rules and Regulations that were adopted at the meeting of June 8, 2011, can be amended and must be presented for public adoption. Chairman Meerdter would like Mr. Grayson to be in attendance to address any rule changes. The Board will be amending the Rules that were adopted on June 8 and feels that all three members must be in attendance to do so.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nancy David
Administrative Hearings Coordinator