

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

On May 14, 2014, 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, Chairman, Robert Tabler, and alternate George Harmening were present as well as Assistant County Attorney Timothy Dixon, Counsel to the Board, Jo Vance, Administrative Hearings Coordinator and Charles Kaizer, Liquor Inspector.

10:00 a.m., the Board addressed the following official business:

1. The minutes from the April 9, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion from Mr. Tabler, seconded by Mr. Harmening with a unanimous vote.
2. There was an appearance by the licensee and new partner of EJ's Restaurant in Union Bridge to request that their liquor license, which is currently a Class D, be changed back to a Class B (Beer, Wine and Liquor) as it used to be, and that Mr. Derek Bendit be added as a licensee to their liquor license. Mr. Kaizer testified as to the history of EJ's and why they originally surrendered their Class B license. Mr. Bruce Jones, the licensee then testified about why he needs help to run the business. Mr. Bendit testified that he is ready to have EJ's be under his leadership and that he has plans for improving the restaurant. He will be submitting an application to add himself as a licensee and will appear at a hearing next month to determine that and the classification of the liquor license.
3. Tom Barnes of Sykesville, MD, appeared on behalf of Peter Truby, the licensee for Salazon Chocolate in Sykesville. Mr. Truby has requested approval to move his establishment down two doors on Main Street in Sykesville. The operation and concept will be the same but they will be pursuing more on-premise service and adding additional seating. Mr. Dixon raised concerns about granting this request without a public hearing, but Mr. Kaizer stated that the Board routinely approves moves within the small shopping plaza without a hearing. The move for Salazon Chocolate is similar to moving within the same shopping plaza. Upon a motion by Mr. Tabler, seconded by Mr. Harmening, this request was approved by unanimous consensus.
4. An application for a one day liquor license for an outdoor event for the Carroll County Public Library for an event entitled Farm to Fork Education Program at the Finksburg Branch Library on August 15, 2014 was discussed. Mr. Kaizer was asked to call and find out more about the event and what type of liquor would be served. Upon his clarification and decision, they will be approved.
5. A letter from Delegate Susan Krebs to Roland Meerdter and the Board was discussed regarding the legislation that has passed and her appreciation of the monthly newsletter.
6. A request from Kevin Atticks of the Maryland Wine Association to replace the existing request for a copy of the State Retail License with the Wine Festival applications be replaced with a print out from the State Alcohol and Tobacco Registry was discussed. Mr. Tabler

posited that the registry information seemed to be more current but it would require a change in Rule 46 Maryland Wine Festival of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of License Commissioners for Carroll County. After discussion it was decided to advertise for the next meeting that a possible change in the Carroll County Board of License Commissioners Rules and Regulations would be considered. This item will be added to the June agenda.

7. A request from the VFW Post #467 to hold events in their pavilion and serve alcohol was discussed. Mr. Kaizer testified that they hold these types of events every summer and shared the background of this organization. This request was approved.
8. A letter from Jeff Green of The Upper Deck in Mt. Airy in which he informed the Board of the removal of a partition wall and accompanying drawings was discussed. Mr. Kaizer explained what had been done and that he had instructed Mr. Green to submit the information and drawings for the Board's approval. This request was approved.
9. A one-day liquor license application from James Billingslea, Jr. for the Forest and Stream Club of Westminster for an outdoor event was discussed. The Board decided it would approve this request pending Mr. Kaizer's inspection of or garnering of more information about this event.
10. A fax from the Mt. Airy Greene Turtle requesting an extension of the Friday and Saturday night use of a portion of their parking lot for games and outdoor alcohol consumption was considered. Mr. Kaizer testified that he had observed the previously approved event and that it was very low key and didn't seem to present any problems. The Board unanimously approved this request.
11. An email from Cindy Pehl of Gourmet Wine and Spirits stating that they would be staying open until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings was discussed. Mr. Kaizer informed the Board that per their license this was allowed and her email was for information purposes.
12. It was announced that the next meeting of the Board of License Commissioners is to be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
13. Mr. Kaizer shared with the Board information that he learned while at the Maryland Alcohol Licensing Association conference in Ocean City, MD. He discussed the Growler Bill that will most likely be signed into law the next day. He also reported that the ban of 190 proof (grain) alcohol was discussed at the conference. The ban for retail sales takes effect July 1, 2014. After that date, people who have a legitimate use for it can still purchase it from wholesalers. He also reported that Montgomery County will be issuing licenses for salons who give beer or wine to their patrons. The license will cost \$100.00 but they will have to pay the full application fees. He also reported that Frederick County will be hiring a third liquor inspector in July, 2014.
14. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion made by Mr. Tabler and seconded by Mr. Harmening with a unanimous vote at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jo Vance
Administrator Hearings Coordinator
Office of Administrative Hearings

Y:\LIQUOR BOARD\Minutes\BLC2014\05.14.14.doc