

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

**On December 9, 2015, the Board of License Commissioners met in Room 003/004 of the Carroll County Office Building, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Board members Roland Meerdter, Chairman, David Brauning and Robert Tabler were present as well as Assistant County Attorney Timothy Dixon, Counsel to the Board, Jo Vance, Administrative Hearings Coordinator, and Charles Kaizer, Senior Liquor Inspector.**

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

1. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5903**, application for a change in Resident Licensee by Matthew Gagnon and Robert J. Barry, Jr., for a Class B – Beer, Wine and Liquor license previously issued to Miia Illiano and Robert J. Barry, Jr., for the use of GT Mt. Airy, LLC, t/a The Greene Turtle, 1604 Ridgeside Drive, Mt. Airy, MD 21771, in Election District 13. The applicant was represented by David Mister, Esq. Mr. Gagnon testified that he works full time for Amtrak out of Washington, D.C., but that he will continue to go by the restaurant 1 or 2 times a week to dine and observe the operations. He testified that he had invested \$6,000.00 in the business and that he was an 11-year resident of Carroll County and had known the Illiano's for all that time. Frank and Miia Illiano testified as to Mr. Gagnon's good character. Upon a motion made by Mr. Tabler and seconded by Mr. Brauning, the change in Resident Licensee was approved.
2. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5904**, an application for the transfer from Half Pint, Inc., t/a Winfield Liquors of a Class A – Beer, Wine, and Liquor License to be issued to Georgia Rippeon-Suter and Yogesh Bajaj for the use of Full Masti, Inc., t/a Winfield Wine and Spirits, 1707 West Liberty Rd., Westminster, MD 21157, in Election District 9. The applicants were represented by David K. Bowersox, Esq. Mr. Yogesh Bajaj testified that he will be the person most involved in the day to day operations of the store and that he is a 45% stockholder and officer of the Corporation. He and the other corporate members will be buying the property under another corporation, and will then rent the property to Full Masti, Inc. He plans on keeping the current employees who he will have TAM certified. He testified that he and Ms. Rippeon-Suter are both TAM certified and that the store will not accept any vertical ID's. Ms. Rippeon-Suter testified as to her qualifications to be a Resident Licensee. Mr. George Mezardash, Keith Compton and Brian Higgs all testified as to the good character of both applicants. Upon a motion by Mr. Brauning and seconded by Mr. Tabler, the application for transfer was approved.
3. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5905**, an application for a change of Resident Licensee by Miia R. Illiano for a Class B – Beer, Wine, and Liquor License previously issued to Leonardo Sauro, for the use of Mt. Airy Inn, LLC, t/a Mt. Airy Inn, 1401 South Main Street, Mt. Airy, MD 21771, Election District 13. The

applicant was represented by Michael Ritchey, Esq. Ms. Illiano testified that she has been a long time resident of Carroll County. She also testified that Leonardo Sauro had resigned to pursue another business opportunity. All of the servers at the Mt. Airy Inn are TAM certified and the restaurant has been and continues to be managed by Damon Christian. Ms. Illiano testified that there are currently 30 employees and that she sometimes fills in if needed. Inspector Kaizer testified that there had been no violations of any kind at this establishment and that he had witnessed that Ms. Illiano was frequently on the premises. On a motion by Mr. Brauning and seconded by Mr. Tabler, the application was approved.

4. Prior to adjourning for lunch, the Board handled the following items as part of their Business Meeting: a) upon a motion by Mr. Brauning and seconded by Mr. Tabler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the November 4, 2015 minutes; b) the Board also approved the following establishments' notices of a change in their hours of operation: Esquire Liquors, Sykesville American Legion, and Maggies; c) Inspector Kaizer informed the Board of the new floor plan for the previously approved license for Los Aztecas restaurant which is making the restaurant 50% larger than what was presented at their hearing, and the Board approved this change in the floor plan; d) the Board was informed of a letter from Nora's Kabob regarding their rewards program for staff passing an age compliance check and their request that they be informed of the staff person's name by the Liquor Inspector.

**AT THIS TIME, THE BOARD ADJOURNED FOR A LUNCH BREAK.**

5. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5906**, an application for the transfer of a Class C – Beer, Wine, and Liquor License to be issued to Mackenzie Kantruss, Kenneth O'Brien, and Allan Greenberg for the use of TLAC, LLC, t/a The Links at Challedon, 6166 Challedon Circle, Mt. Airy, MD 21771, in Election District 9. The applicants were represented by Clark Shaffer, Esq. Mr. O'Brien was the first to testify. He testified that he was previously the CEO of Music and Arts Center, a multi-million dollar company. He believes that a successful business takes care of its employees by sharing profits and treating them well. He testified that all the staff at the Links at Challedon is a good team and he intends to keep them if they will stay. There are five to seven full time employees and as many as thirty part time employees. MacKenzie Kantruss then testified as the current resident licensee who will be staying on the license in that capacity. Allan Greenberg testified that as a licensee and part owner, that he would mainly handle the financial details of the business. Gary Large, Phillip O'Brien and Mike McDonald all testified as to the fit and proper character of the licensees. On a motion made by Mr. Tabler and seconded by Mr. Brauning, the Board approved the transfer contingent on all State and local agencies giving their approval of the transaction.
6. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5907**, an application a new Class B – Beer and Wine six day License to be issued to Tim Thammavongsa, for the use of Tim Thai Classic, LLC, t/a Tim Thai Classic, 17 East Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157, in Election District 4. Bradley Bauhof, Esq. represented the applicant. Mr. Thammavongsa testified that he has lived in Carroll County for less than one year,

but that he moved to the County for their schools and for the rural qualities of the County. He currently has three employees at the establishment. Pete Samios, James Breuer and Derrick Barnes all testified as to the fit and proper character of Mr. Thammavongsa and as to the need for his establishment to have a license. Because Mr. Thammavongsa had not been a resident of Carroll County for at least two years, the Board could not approve the application as presented. Upon a motion by Mr. Tabler, and seconded by Mr. Brauning the Board voted unanimously to table this application until the January hearing to give Mr. Thammavongsa an opportunity to find a Resident Licensee for his establishment.

7. At this time, the Business Meeting resumed with a presentation by Pete Samios of the Licensed Beverage Association regarding a bill proposed by them to the Legislature to create a special tasting license for a cost of \$500.00 that would allow a Class A establishment to give customers a tasting at any time. The limits of how much could be poured for a tasting and how many bottles could be open for tastings would remain the same as what is currently in the Rules and Regulations of the Carroll County Board of License Commissioners. Mr. Samios informed the Board that the bill would be drafted by their lobbyist in Annapolis and presented to the Carroll County Delegation.
8. Darren Barnes presented the Board with a letter that offers suggested changes to the Class D licenses in the Board's Rules and Regulations. Each member of the Board was emailed a copy of this letter for their review and consideration.
9. There followed a discussion about Section 9-102(a) of Article 2B of the Maryland Annotated Code which deals with how many liquor licenses one person can hold in Carroll County. The Board agreed that their interpretation of the law means one license per person for the entire State for a Class A license. For Class B licenses, they agreed that it could be one license per County.

Mr. Meerdter adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Jo Vance  
Administrator Hearings Coordinator  
Office of Administrative Hearings