



MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON  
LIQUOR COMMISSION MEETING  
February 12, 2019; 4:00 PM

**1. Call to Order.**

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:00 P.M.

**2. Roll Call.**

Present: Commissioners Tari Renner, Lindsey Powell, and Jim Jordan. Staff present: George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; Asst. Police Chief Greg Scott; and Ashley Lara, Legislative Assistant.

**3. Public Comment.**

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive public comment. There was no public comment offered.

**4. Consideration of approving the Liquor Commission minutes of December 11, 2018 and January 8, 2019.**

Commissioner Jordan made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Powell.

**Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Jordan, and Renner.**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried.**

**5. Consideration of the request from Barry Johnson and Cari Blessing to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their March 23, 2019 wedding reception to be held at Davis Lodge at Lake Bloomington.**

Barry Johnson and Cari Blessing, the bride and groom, appeared on behalf of the item.

Commissioner Powell made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

**Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Jordan, and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

6. Public Hearing on the request by Personal Assistance Telephone Help d/b/a PATH, Inc., requesting an LA (Limited/All Types) liquor license for an event at the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts, located at 600 N. East Street, on April 4, 2019, which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises on the date of the event.

Karen Zangerle, Director of PATH, Inc., spoke on behalf of the item.

There are no substantial changes from the previous years of this event.

**Commissioner Jordan made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Powell.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Jordan, and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

7. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Keg Grove Brewing Company, LLC d/b/a Keg Grove Brewing Company, located at 712 East Empire Street, Building 2 currently holding a TBPS (Tavern/Beer and Wine/Package and Sunday Sales) liquor license, which allows the sale of beer by the glass for consumption on the premises, and the sale of packaged beer for consumption off premises seven (7) days a week.

Jeff Mroz, Tyler Cox, and Jeff Knauf, owners of Keg Grove Brewing Company, were sworn in by the Clerk to provide testimony.

Mr. Mroz, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Knauf requested approval of a change in ownership. No operational changes are planned. Mr. Mroz and Mr. Cox are the two managing members.

**Commissioner Powell made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Jordan.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Jordan, and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

8. Public Hearing on the request by Keg Grove Brewing Company, LLC d/b/a Keg Grove Brewing Company, located at 712 East Empire Street to remove a condition on its license prohibiting a patio or outdoor alcohol service to allow an outdoor service or consumption area.

Commissioner Renner combined Items 8 and 9 into one motion. See item 9 below.

9. Public Hearing on the request by Keg Grove Brewing Company, LLC d/b/a Keg Grove Brewing Company, located at 712 East Empire Street to change a condition on its liquor license to allow for extended hours, Sunday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.

Jeff Knauf, Tyler Cox, and Jeff Mroz, owners of Keg Grove Brewing Company, were sworn in by the Clerk to provide testimony.

Commissioner Jordan asked about the seating capacity of the outdoor areas and Mr. Cox stated the seating capacity is about 25-30 depending on which proposed area is selected.

Commissioner Jordan asked if the area will change the dynamics of the business and Mr. Cox stated no. The area is blocked off by buildings and they have a lot of people who come from the trail with their dogs and want to have a drink and take a seat. There will be no live entertainment.

Commissioner Powell said the outdoor patio is a logical next move for the business. It looks like both of the proposed locations are adequately blocked off.

Mr. Cox said both proposed locations have structures and fencing. The fence was placed to avoid any traffic going in to the adjacent alley.

Mr. Knauff stated there are a lot of bicyclists who would enjoy being outside. They are willing to put a condition of hours of operation on the outside.

*Public Comment:*

Carolyn Jarvis expressed concern about traffic in the alley and noise.

Paul Jarvis expressed concern about noise.

Commissioner Jordan asked about parking and Mr. Jarvis stated it is open parking.

Kate Mueninghoff expressed concerns about noise and the smell of beer and cigarettes.

Dave Gronmeyer, President of the White's Place Association, said that at a recent meeting of the Association, no one seemed to be concerned about the items on the agenda, but they want to give input about the outdoor hours being limited to 9 or 10 P.M.

Joe Strano spoke in favor and support of both items.

Asst. Chief Greg Scott stated there have been no issues for the Police from this establishment. Mr. Boyle stated the Legal Department has not received any complaints.

Commissioner Renner asked that the Commission move on to discussing the requested change and service hours.

Mr. Mroz stated they are not looking to change posted hours in any way currently. They are trying to open up for down the road when they want to host special events. They have had issues with turning charities away because they could not be open for the requested hours.

*Public Comment:*

Carolyn Jarvis did not think 9 A.M. to midnight is reasonable.

Mr. Cox stated they don't have set events they are looking into at this time. They don't know exactly how many, but they get a lot of requests.

Commissioner Renner proposed the establishment and the neighbors work out a compromise and bring a specific agreement for the outdoor area and change in hours to the Liquor Commission at its March meeting.

**Commissioner Jordan made the motion to continue these items until the March 12, 2019, meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Powell.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan, Powell, and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

10. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Thornton, LLC (previously Thornton, Inc.) d/b/a Thornton's #360, located at 906 North Main Street currently holding a GPBS (Convenience Store/Beer and Wine/Package and Sunday Sales) liquor license, which allows the sale of packaged beer and wine only for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.

**Commissioner Renner combined Items 10 and 11 into one motion. See item 11 below.**

11. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Thornton, LLC (previously Thornton, Inc.) d/b/a Thornton's #361, located at 1011 North Hershey Road, currently holding a GPBS (Convenience Store/Beer and Wine/Package and Sunday Sales) liquor license, which allows the sale of packaged beer and wine only for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.

No one attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the Company.

Mr. Boyle referenced a letter from Thornton's attorney that was in the Commissioner's packet (which is attached to this memorandum and labeled CLK 1D - LETTER - THORNTONS 360 & 361 - CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP GPBS). He explained that Thorntons, Inc. is merging with a joint entity comprised of BP Products North America, Inc. and ArcLight Capital Partners, LLC. After the merger, the corporation will be converted to an LLC. The companies are up to date with their insurance and they have no recent violations. According to the company representatives, no changes in local personnel or operations are planned.

Commissioner Powell made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

**Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Jordan, and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**


**12. Adjournment**

Commissioner Renner asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Commissioner Renner adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM.**

**Motion carried. (Viva Voce)**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Leslie Yocum, Interim City Clerk