



MINUTES  
SPECIAL SESSION LIQUOR COMMISSION  
FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021, 7:30 A.M.

This meeting was conducted under Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2020-09 §6, which was reissued and extended by Executive Order 2021-09. The Order, implemented in response to COVID-19, suspended in-person attendance under the Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120.

The Liquor Commission convened in special session virtually via Zoom conferencing with George Boyle, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk, in-person in City Hall’s Council Chambers and virtually via Zoom conferencing at 7:30 a.m., on Friday, May 21, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Mboka Mwilambwe.

**Roll Call**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mboka Mwilambwe	Commissioner	Remote	
Jim Jordan	Commissioner	Remote	
Lindsey Meister	Commissioner	Remote	

**Staff Advisors**

Staff Present	Title	Status	Arrived
Amanda Mohan	Deputy City Clerk	Present	
George Boyle	Asst. Corporation Counsel	Present	
Greg Scott	Interim Police Chief	Remote	

**Public Comment**

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the meeting to receive public comment. Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk, informed the Commission that no individuals had registered speak live and no emailed public comment was received.

*The following item was presented:*

Agenda Item 5. Public Hearing and action on the request from Miller Park Zoological Society, whose event will be held at the Miller Park Zoo, located at 1020 S. Morris Ave., on June 11 and 12, 2021, and requests a Class LB (Limited/Beer and Wine) liquor license, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the public hearing at 7:32 a.m.

Paula Pratt, Miller Park Zoological Society Director, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. She explained that the Miller Park Zoological Society (“Society”) would host their 6<sup>th</sup> annual Brews at the Zoo was fundraiser that provided the opportunity to bring the broader community to the Zoo as well as raise funds for a Society determined Zoo project. Normally the event was held for one night with a capacity for 600 attendees. This year, Brews for the Zoo would be a two-night event to limit the number of attendees due to COVID-19. The event would have nine regional and local breweries to offer beer and wine samples as well as nine local restaurants to offer food samples. She stated that tickets were available online at

Eventbrite and that attendees must be 21 to purchase a ticket. The event would be held from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., which would be after the Zoo's normal hours of operation. Zoo staff will be present to offer zookeeper talks and allow guests to have animal experiences.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the floor to received speakers in favor of the application. Ms. Mohan confirmed that no individuals had registered to speak live or emailed statements.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, confirmed that the Legal Department had no concerns.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the floor to received speakers not in favor of the application. Ms. Mohan confirmed that no individuals had registered to speak live or emailed statements.

Commissioner Meister asked if attendees purchased beer at the stations. Mrs. Pratt explained that the admission ticket included four beer or wine samples and two food samples but that a limited number of additional alcohol or food tickets would be available for purchase.

Commissioner Jordan had no concerns.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked the number of anticipated attendees. Mrs. Pratt responded that there were 300 tickets available for each night and with approximately 40 volunteers on site, the Society chose to have a more restrictive capacity.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the public hearing at 7:38 a.m.

**Commissioner Meister motioned, seconded by Commissioner Jordan, to send the application to Council with a positive recommendation.**

**Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll which resulted in the following:**

**AYES:** Jordan, Meister, Mwilambwe

**Motion carried.**

### **Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

### **New Business**

No new business was discussed.

### **Adjournment**

**Commissioner Jordan motioned, seconded by Commissioner Meister, to adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion carried (viva voce).**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 a.m.



Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk