

MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION

December 10, 2013

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Hearing to order to hear the request of Megan Owens and Phillip Wood to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their May 3, 2014 wedding reception to be held at the Lake Bloomington Davis Lodge. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk, and Megan Owens, bride and request's representative.

Commissioners absent: Stephen Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the Public Comment section of the meeting. No one came forward to address the Commission.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and requested that the requestor's representative address this request. Megan Owens, bride, addressed the Commission. The wedding was scheduled for May 3, 2014 at the Lake Bloomington Davis Lodge. There were 100 people on the guest list. A Renee, located at 306 N. Center St., Suite 102, would be retained to provide liquor service, which would be limited to beer and wine only. The wedding was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. The wedding reception was scheduled for 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Jordan that the request of Megan Owens and Phillip Wood to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at the Lake Bloomington David Lodge for their May 3, 2014 wedding be approved.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Commissioner Renner stated that this item would appear on the Council's January 13, 2014 Consent Agenda. He encouraged her to attend same.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:04 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Hearing to consider the application of OSF St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation for a Limited Alcoholic Liquor License, Class LA, which will allow the selling and serving of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premise. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel and Tracey Covert, City Clerk; and Jennifer Sedbrook, Executive Director and Kate Boutilier, Development Associate, and Applicant representatives.

Commissioner Renner questioned the purpose of this application. Jennifer Sedbrook, Executive Director and Applicant representative, began by informing the Commission that this application was for a fund raiser for the OSF St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation to be held at the Eastland Medical Plaza I Atrium on Friday, February 21, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. This request was for a Limited License for a nonprofit corporation.

She reminded the Commission that this was an annual event. She believed that this would be the event's eighteenth year and the sixth time to host it in February. World Tour, A Sampling of International Beer, Wine and Food, involved tasting cups to serve the beer, wine and spirits.

Commissioner Tompkins noted that he had attended this event. It was a nice and well run event.

Commissioner Renner questioned who would act as servers. Ms. Sedbrook noted that OSF was working Famous Liquors located at 1404 E. Empire. No orders can be accepted at the event. Acceptance of same would be the point of sale.

Ms. Sedbrook noted that this year would mark this event's seventeenth or eighteenth anniversary. The event was originally held at Central Station. This will be the fifteenth year for it to be held on the OSF campus. There also were corporate sponsors for this event.

Ms. Sedbrook noted that last year all of the food had been donated which made a positive impact upon the Foundation's pledge. This year, the event would offer spirits for tasting. An example would be offering Irish whiskey at the Ireland table.

Ms. Sedbrook estimated the event attendance at 250. The event recognized OSF/St. Joseph's donor base. Dollars raised from this year's event will be used to meet the Foundation's pledge to the hospital. These dollars will be directed towards a new high bred OR project. This type of operating room would be the first of its type in the area. A high bred OR offered shorter surgery and recovery time which resulted in higher patient satisfaction

Commissioner Renner informed the Applicant that the license fee would be waived as in the past.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Jordan that an LA liquor license be created for OSF St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation for a fund raiser to be held on February 21, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Eastland Medical Plaza I, Atrium, 2200 E. Washington St.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Commissioner Renner informed the Applicant that this item would appear on the January 13, 2014 City Council Consent Agenda. He encouraged them to attend this meeting.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:05 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Hearing to order regarding the application of TEDJ, LLC d/b/a Joe's Pub, located at 3907 GE Rd., Suite 2, requesting an RAS liquor license, which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; and Tracey Covert, City Clerk; and Rich Marvel Applicant's attorney.

Commissioner absent: Stephen Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and requested that the Applicant address this application. Rich Marvel, Applicant's attorney, addressed the Commission. He noted that Tony and Joe Wargo, owners/operators and Applicants' representatives were also present. Joe's Pub would be located at the former's Boo Boo's Dog House which closed in November 2013. The Applicants had completed BASSET training.

Commissioner Renner questioned the Applicants' liquor sales experience. Mr. Marvel noted that the Applicants currently operated Joe's Station House Pizza Pub located at 305 S. Veterans Pkwy., Normal. This restaurant was located at the Shoppes at College Hills.

Commissioner Tompkins questioned if the Applicants were familiar with Chapter 6. Alcoholic Beverages. Mr. Marvel responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Jordan questioned if there would be any shared ownership with the former tenant. Mr. Marvel responded negatively. The entire restaurant had closed. The premises had been renovated and there would be a large room.

Commissioner Tompkins commended the Applicants on their complete application.

Tracey Covert, City Clerk, questioned the planned opening date. She noted that Mr. Marvel had requested that this application appear on the Council's December 16, 2013 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Jordan that that the application by TEDJ, LLC, d/b/a Joe's Pub, located at 3907 GE Rd., Suite 2., requesting an RAS liquor license, which allows the sale of all types of alcohol only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week be approved contingent upon compliance with life safety codes.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Commissioner Renner stated that this item would appear on the Council's December 16, 2013 Consent Agenda. He encouraged them to attend same.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:10 p.m.

Commissioner Renner addressed the Liquor Commission meeting scheduled for calendar year 2014.

Tracey Covert, City Clerk, informed the Commissioners that second Tuesday in November would be the eleventh which was the Veterans Day Holiday. City Hall would be closed. She recommended that the meeting be scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month or November 4, 2014. The City must post an Annual List of Meetings by January 1, 2014.

The meeting recessed at 4:12 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Hearing to order addressed the proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 6. Section 7A Classification regarding the EA and EB, (Entertainment), and ST, (Stadium), (new) classifications and changes to the RA and RB, (Restaurant), classifications. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing regarding the amended/updated proposed Text Amendment. He informed the Commission that he had discussed same with the Council members. He noted that a Public Hearing on same had been held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013. He believed that the Council would support this item.

Commissioner Renner stated that the ST classification had been modeled after the Town of Normal's Code but tailored to the US Cellular Coliseum.

Commissioner Renner addressed the changes to the RA and RB classifications. Alcohol sales would be incidental to food sales. He read from Section 7A. Classification, (15) Class "RA". He noted that Section 7A. Classification (16) addressed Class "RB". The goal was to clearly define and clarify the City's definitions of restaurant.

Commissioner Renner addressed the proposed EA and EB classifications. He read from Section 7A. Classification, (3) (a) through (b) (iv). This classification was not intended for the City's existing tavern license holders. He noted the higher threshold for the "E" classification compared to the "R" and/or "T", Tavern, license classifications.

Commissioner Tompkins had reviewed the draft minutes of the December 3, 2013 Public Hearing. He noted that dj's and televised sporting events were not part of the entertainment definition.

Commissioner Renner responded affirmatively. The Council did not support same. He also noted the Council's past denial of the proposed "E" license classification October 22, 2012. He added that the Commission had addressed concerns regarding the Town of Normal's Code as it addressed the restaurant classification. The City would not set hours of operation.

Commissioner Jordan believed that there would always be controversy. The liquor license holder hoped to have the advantage. He agreed that televised sporting events were not included in the definition of entertainment. This was not the intent of the proposed text amendment.

Commissioner Tompkins questioned the future and new forms of entertainment. Commissioner Renner stated that the City Code was amendable.

Commissioner Tompkins questioned when the proposed text amendment would appear before the Council for a vote. Commissioner Renner stated his intent to place this item on the Council's December 16, 2013 meeting agenda.

Commissioner Tompkins followed up on the re-examination of liquor license fees.

Commissioner Renner expressed his hope that fees for Downtown liquor licenses would be increased to address Downtown clean up. He planned to begin the conversation in early 2014. The issue of liquor license fees was independent from the proposed text amendment before the Commission this date.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Jordan that the amended/updated text amendment to Chapter 6. Alcoholic Beverages, Section 7A Classification be recommended to the Council for approval.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Commissioner Renner stated that this item would appear on the Council's December 16, 2013 Consent Agenda. He encouraged the Commission to attend same.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Violation Hearing to order regarding Taqueria El Porton, Inc., d/b/a Taqueria El Porton, located at 901 N. Main St., currently holding an RBS liquor license which allows the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner absent: Steve Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and noted that this item involved notification of violation payment.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, addressed the Commission. He noted that this was an initial violation for Taqueria El Porton. The violation occurred as part of a Police Department audit. It involved underage sales. This was small family business. The license holder paid a \$500 fine which was the authorized settlement.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Violation Hearing to order regarding G/Jamn, LLC, d/b/a Bandana's BBQ, located at 502 IAA Dr., currently holding

an RBS liquor license which allows the sale of beer and wine only by the glass or consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner absent: Steve Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and noted that this item involved notification of violation payment.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, addressed the Commission. He noted that this was an initial violation for Bandana's. The violation occurred as part of a Police Department audit. It involved underage sales. The license holder paid a \$600 fine.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Violation Hearing to order regarding Varunee and Brian Tuuk, d/b/a Thai House of Bloomington, located at 805 Morrissey, currently holding an RBS liquor license which allows the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner absent: Steve Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and noted that this item involved notification of violation payment.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, addressed the Commission. He noted that this was an initial violation for Thai House. The violation occurred as part of a Police Department audit. It involved underage sales. The license holder paid a \$600 fine.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Violation Hearing to order regarding Bloomington Chateau Partners, LLC, d/b/a The Chateau, located at 1601 Jumer Dr., currently holding an RAS liquor license which allows the all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner absent: Steve Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and noted that this item involved notification of violation payment.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, addressed the Commission. He noted that this was an initial violation for the Chateau. The violation occurred as part of a Police Department audit. It involved underage sales. The license holder paid a \$600 fine.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Tari Renner called the Liquor Violation Hearing to order regarding Beningo's Restaurant, Inc., d/b/a Beningo's Restaurant, located at 610 W. Chestnut St., currently holding an RAS liquor license which allows the all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Tari Renner, Geoffrey Tompkins and Jim Jordan; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioner absent: Steve Stockton.

Commissioner Renner opened the liquor hearing and noted that payment had not been made. He noted Beningo's had not had a violation in forty-two (42) years. This was a small family business. He had discussed this violation with George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel. There needed to be more flexibility and the Commission may need to consider other variables in determining the sanction. He planned to update the Commission at their January 14, 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Renner set the fine at \$400. City staff was authorized to contact the liquor license holder.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully,

Tracey Covert, CRM, CMC, RMC
City Clerk