

Allegany County Board of License Commissioners

701 Kelly Road, Room 112

Cumberland, MD 21502

Tom Farrell, Chairman

Tom Melvin, Acting Chief Inspector

C Ron Miller, Commissioner

Brandy Gordon, Clerk

Danny Laffey, Commissioner

MINUTES – June 7, 2023

The Allegany County Board of License Commissioners held a meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. The meeting was conducted at 10:00 A.M. in Room 100 of the Allegany County Office Complex. Present for the meeting was Chairman - Thomas Farrell, Commissioner - C. Ron Miller, Commissioner – Dan Laffey, Inspector – Tom Melvin, Office Clerk – Brandy Gordon, and Board Attorney Ramani Pillai. Also in attendance were Kenneth Shook, Dylan Keister, Doug Moulden, David Goad, Mark Bittinger, Mary Shrout, Tina Rosa, Emily Bladen, and Rodney McIntyre.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrell. The Board approved the May 17, 2023 minutes.

A One-day special class “C” license (Beer and wine) was approved for Rebecca Mizak and Becky Shreve for the Allegany County Animal Shelter. The license is for Saturday, June 10, 2023 at the Potomac Valley Athletic Association, 12797 Darrows Lane, Cresaptown. This is for the Western Maryland Food Truck Festival. All beer and wine will be provided by Dig Deep Brewery and Charis Winery. They will be checking IDs and providing wristbands to anyone over 21 years of age. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey

A One-day special class “C” license (Beer and wine) was approved for Juli McCoy, Patrick Buck, and Robert Godfrey with the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. The license is for Friday, June 9, 2023 at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club Picnic Grounds, 13100 Ali Ghan Rd, Cumberland. This is for the Lucky Ladies Night Out event. The event is open only to individuals over the age of 21. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.

A One-day special class “C” license (Beer and wine) was approved for Juli McCoy, Jeremy Irons, and Patrick Buck with the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. The license is for Friday, August 4, 2023 at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club Picnic Grounds, 13100 Ali Ghan Rd, Cumberland. This is the Chamber’s Crab feast event. There will be beer trucks for this event. There should be no minors in attendance. If someone does not look 21, they will be asked for identification and if not 21 will be asked to leave the event. Chairman Farrell made a motion to

approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.

A One-day special class "C" license (Beer) was approved for Mark Bittinger and David Goad with Friends Aware Inc. The license is for Friday, June 16 at the Allegany County Fairgrounds, 11400 Moss Ave, Cumberland. This is the "Summer Sizzle" event. Friends Aware just had 6 people attend TIPS training to serve beer. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.

A One-day special class "C" license (Beer and Wine) was approved for Kenneth Shook and Darrin Hott for the Kemp Masonic Lodge #154. The license is for Saturday, June 11, 2023 at 1812 Brewery, 13006 Mason Road, Cumberland. This is their annual steak feed event. The beer for the event was purchased from 1812 Brewery. The ticket price included the cost of the alcohol. Minors may be present with adult supervision. Anyone over 21 will receive a wristband. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.

A yearly Class "C" (Beer and wine) license was approved for the Woman's Civic Club of Cumberland Inc. The Woman's Civic Club meets once a month and has several special occasion events throughout the year. They inquired about a license so that they could serve wine at their luncheons. All necessary paperwork was received by the Liquor Board office. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.

The office clerk, Brandy Gordon, presented the Board a letter from Skewer's in regards to their liquor license. Mark Anderson and Emily Anderson requested more time to sell the liquor license. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve the extension, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and the motion was made unanimous by Commissioner Laffey. The Board requested that if the license is not transferred before the first meeting in September, Tuesday, September 12, that they attend the meeting to give an update on the standing of the liquor license.

The office received multiple calls about the Street Rod Association having a Special Class "C" license to sell beer at their lot during Memorial Day weekend. Their lot is located to the left before crossing the railroad tracks into the fairgrounds. Delfest is held at the fairgrounds during Memorial Day weekend. Chris Howell with Howell Sunoco Station and Doug Moulden with Allegany Liquor attended the meeting to object to ANY one-day license being able to sell packaged beer. Mr. Howell spoke to the commissioners about how it effects business for the yearly license holders in the area with a huge music festival in town for the weekend. The Commissioners explained the application process for a one-day event to get a license and asked why no one objected then. Mr. Howell said that he was unfamiliar with the process and would do so in the future. Mr. Howell thanked the Commissioners for their time. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Howell for attending the meeting and letting them know how a license holder feels about the one-day licenses.

Rodney McIntyre attended the meeting to give an update on where he was with the transfer process of the current liquor license for Dale's Pit Stop. He stated that he has a buyer, but the buyer is currently out of the country. Rodney provided the Board with two emails. One was from Dushant Sharma stating that he could not purchase the license until he had property to use the license for. This was the potential buyer Rodney spoke about at the May 17, 2023 meeting. The second email was from Vipul Rajpara who is asking for more time to get his space ready for the license. The Commissioners explained to Mr. McIntyre that they did not want to Void the license, but this issue has continued on for way to long. Commissioner Miller read from the minutes of the May 17 meeting that if the transfer process wasn't started by this meeting the license would be dead. Mr. McIntyre pleaded that he had all his paperwork ready to go and that he was just waiting for the buyer to return to the country. All three Commissioners along with Rodney McIntyre agreed that at the next meeting, Wednesday, June 21, 2023, Rodney is to have a signed contract for the sale of the liquor license and the buyer or buyer's representative present at the meeting.

There were no violation hearings scheduled for this meeting.

The board reviewed the new inspector violation sheets. Inspectors reported on 203 routine inspections between May 17, 2023 any June 6, 2023. Chief Inspector, Terry Carolan, retired on May 31, 2023. The Board discussed that the job posting for a part time inspector is currently going through in-house. If five applications are not received by the June 9 deadline, the job will post in the newspaper. Tom Melvin will be Acting Chief Inspector until another inspector is hired. Inspector Melvin was asked to contact the Ali Ghan Shrine Club to remind them that they have a club license and their advertisements must be tagged members and guests.

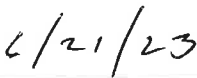
There was general discussion among the Board. Chairman Farrell and Office Clerk, Brandy Gordon shared what they learned at the training seminar on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at Carroll Community College in regards to counterfeit IDs and money. There was some discussion on special one day licenses being allowed to sell packaged beer and what was permitted per alcoholic beverage law. Attorney Ramani Pillai said that he would do some research.

The next regular meeting of the Board of License Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in Room 100 of the Allegany County Office Complex.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Farrell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller and unanimously approved by Commissioner Laffey.



Thomas Farrell, Chairman



Date