# LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FOR HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND 16 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

### **MEETING MINUTES**

May 26, 2021

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#### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Tilley. In attendance were Vice Chair Majewski and Commissioners Merchant, Welch, and Burdette along with Board Counsel Amy K. Finneran and Judith Powell.

#### **MINUTES**

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes for May 5 and May 12; the vote was unanimous.

## **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Harford Bank	Withholding	1919.88
Comptroller of MD	Withholding	459.60
Payroll	Payroll	4523.31
It's PayDay	Accounting	70.00
MD State Retirement	Retirement	238.45
MD State Retirement	Withholding	489.55
BGE	Utilities	197.67
Metro Data	Maintenance	664.00
Sprint	Telephone	200.81
Staples Credit	Supplies	324.06
Baltimore Sun	Advertising	261.99
Penn National Insurance	Insurance	4166.00

# PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1) <u>First-time Applicants – The Char Hope Foundation – Per Diem Beer & Wine Application</u>
First-time applicants Derek Hopkins and Sandra Gallion appeared on behalf of The Char Hope Foundation in connection with a Per Diem Beer and Wine Application to be used for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Corral for Hope fundraising event being held on June 5 at The Vineyard Farm, 1200 Conowingo Road, Bel Air. Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

# 2) Otter Point Yacht Club, Inc. T/A Otter Point Yacht Club – Supplemental Application and 2021-2022 Renewal

Leonard Martin, Commodore, Derek Tillery, Vice Commodore, and Ann Pongracz, Treasurer, Otter Point Yacht Club, Inc. T/A Otter Point Yacht Club, 600 Otter Point Road, Abingdon were present in connection with a Supplemental Application and the 2021-2022 Renewal Application.

The Board was previously made aware at previous meetings that Otter Point Yacht Club has had outstanding issues relating to their alcoholic beverage license for some time.

At the last meeting, the Board requested that Inspector Colburn go out and pick up the license from the premises. That resulted in multiple phone and in-person conversations and emails between Mrs. Powell, representatives of the club, Inspector Colburn, and Chairman Tilley.

Ultimately, it was agreed that due to the financial hardship presented by the time frame needed to process a new license application, Otter Point Yacht Club would be permitted to complete the Supplemental Application initially filed in September and also file the 2021-22 Renewal Application. However, the club was not permitted to make alcohol sales until the situation was resolved.

The Supplemental Application for change of officers was presented to the Board, through which Derek Tillery, Vice Commodore, replaces Jeffrey Creech, Treasurer, on the license. Leonard Martin, Commodore, and Ann Pongracz, Treasurer, remain on the license, as well as the 2021-22 Renewal Application with the same three officers as the Supplemental.

All the previously outstanding items associated with the Supplemental have been resolved, including payment of the 2020-2021 license fee and the Renewal processing and late fees for 2021-2022. The 2021-2022 license fee will be paid under the payment plan authorized by the Board during the pandemic, meaning that 10% of the license fee has been paid, with the balance paid over 3 monthly payments in June, July, and August.

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the Supplemental Application and the 2021-2022 Renewal Application; the vote was unanimous.

#### SHOW CAUSE HEARING

## 1) Plum House IV, Inc. T/A Chopstix - Alcohol Awareness Violation

Yu Kwok Cheung, President, Yenmin Shum, Secretary/Treasurer, Plum House IV, Inc. t/a Chopstix, 1523-A Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050 were present in connection with a show cause hearing indicating violation of:

(a) failure of an individual certified by a state-approved alcohol awareness program to be present on the licensed premises during the hours in which alcoholic beverages may be sold, which individual shall be the license holder or an individual designated by the license holder who is employed in a supervisory capacity, in violation of Alcoholic Beverages Article ("AB") § 4-505(f) and § 22-1903 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Code") as well as Board Rule 3:14.

The violation is alleged to have occurred on April 14, 2021.

Subsequent to the Hearing, the Board considered all the evidence presented. Based upon the statement of facts (<u>i.e.</u> the written report of Board Inspector William Colburn), as well as applicable License Holder testimony, and with further consideration to License Holder's relevant past record (if any) motion was made and duly seconded to find License Holder in violation of the Alcoholic Beverage Article ("AB") § 4-505(f) and § 22-1903 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Code") as well as Board Rule 3:14; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made and duly seconded to fine License Holder \$100.00; the vote was unanimous.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

# 1) WGAS, L.L.C., T/A Double Groove Brewing Company – Supplemental Application

WGAS, L.L.C., T/A Double Groove Brewing Company, 1659 D Robin Circle Drive, Forest Hill, has submitted a Supplemental Application to remove Lisa Moody from the license. Mark Moody, Member, will now hold 60% interest in the L.L.C. and Kyle Waters, Member, will hold the remaining 40%. Mark Moody will continue as the Responsible Operator. Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

# 2) <u>Battery Island Brewing Company, L.L.C. T/A Battery Island Brewing Company - Outside Event Application</u>

Battery Island Brewing Company, L.L.C. T/A Battery Island Brewing Company, 101 N. Washington Street, Havre de Grace, has submitted an Outside Event Application to be used on First Fridays including June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, and October 1. Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

## 3) Extension of Approvals for Alcohol Service in Temporary Outside Service Areas

Mrs. Powell advised the Board that the Harford County Council approved a temporary moratorium that waived provisions of the zoning code prohibiting outside seating spaces on sidewalks or in parking lots. This moratorium became effective on 5/19/2021 and extends through the end of year (12/31/21). Motion was made and duly seconded to extend the temporary approvals that the Board has granted since the start of the pandemic through December 31, 2021; the vote was unanimous.

#### 4) Fines Paid

The following fines have been paid: Red Robin of Harford Co., Inc. T/A Red Robin Gourmet Burgers & Brew (\$100.00 AA); Bel Air Investments, L.L.C. T/A Barrett's on the Pike (\$100.00 AA); Mint 1, Inc. T/A The Mint Room (\$100.00 AA); and Logos, Inc. T/A 510 Johnny's (\$2000.00 underage sale).

# PER DIEM BEER & WINE LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1) Ducks Unlimited - Central Maryland Chapter - 13th Annual "Sippin by the River" - June 26

Issued to Neil Crumbacker and Steven Steinbacher
On Behalf of Ducks Unlimited – Central Maryland Chapter
Type of Event Annual "Sippin for the Ducks" fundraiser

Date(s) of Event 06/19/2021 Location Description & Jerusalem Mill

Address 2813 Jerusalem Road, Kingsville

Outside Event? Yes

Rain Date 06/26/2021

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

2) Harford County Public Library Foundation - "Once Upon a Rodeo" fundraiser - June 19 (and BWL)

Issued to Jenny Dombeck and Nina Depkin

On Behalf of Harford County Public Library Foundation Type of Event "Once Upon a Rodeo" rodeo and concert

Date(s) of Event 06/19/2021

Location Description & Harford Co. Equestrian Center Address 608 N. Tollgate Road, Bel Air

Outside Event? Yes Rain Date N/A

Comment B&W for general admission; BWL for VIP area

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

# 3) Community Projects of Havre de Grace - Independence Day Concert - July 4

Issued to Christy Silverstein and Taryn Martin

On Behalf of Community Projects of HDG – Celebrate the Fourth Foundation

Type of Event Concert
Date(s) of Event 07/04/2021
Location Description & Hutchins Park

Address 100 Congress Ave, Havre de Grace

Outside Event? Yes Rain Date N/A

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

# 4) American Legion 39, Inc. T/A Harford Post 39 - Outside Event Application

American Legion 39, Inc. T/A Harford Post 39, 500 N. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, has submitted an Outside Event Application to be used for their annual Memorial Day celebration to be held on May 31. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

### 5) Wining Out, L.L.C. T/A The Vineyard Wine Bar – Temporary Outside Service Application

Wining Out, L.L.C. T/A The Vineyard Wine Bar, 142 N. Washington Street, Havre de Grace, has submitted a Temporary Outside Service Area Application to be used with permission from the City through October 2021. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

# 6) <u>Main Street Tower Restaurant & Lounge, L.L.C. T/A Main Street Tower Restaurant & Lounge – Outside Event Application</u>

Main Street Tower Restaurant & Lounge, L.L.C. T/A Main Street Tower Restaurant & Lounge, 29 S. Main St., Bel Air has submitted an Outside Event Application to be used on the parking lot for a fundraising event being held on May 15. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

#### STAFF REPORT / PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT

Naughty Dogs, L.L.C. T/A Naughty Dogs Pub and Grill has had a fire at the establishment. The Health Department has indicated several weeks of closure for repairs. License Holder has requested that the license be placed in escrow. He will advise as opening date approaches. Motion was made and duly seconded to escrow this license; the vote was unanimous.

Regarding pending licenses, Mrs. Powell advised that Venetian Haco, L.L.C. T/A Venetian Palace has submitted their Health Department approval and the license was issued on May 19. Application approval for RCDC, L.L.C. T/A Chaps Pit Beef was issued in August 2020, contingent on receipt of Health Department approval. Due to a grill issue with the Health Department, approval has been delayed, however, an inspection is scheduled for May 27. Inspector Colburn has visited the establishment and discussed carding and alcohol service. A few concerns were identified by the Inspector and they will be addressed by License Holders. Once an acceptable alcohol service plan and Health Department approval are received, the license can be issued.

Mrs. Baxter advised that signature cards from Harford Bank have been received for each commissioner; please stop in the office to sign the appropriate cards.

Vice Chair Majewski approved the use of his signature stamp on checks, and Vice Chair will regularly sign off on the check registers.

The annual audit is scheduled for June 14 and will take three to four on site days.

Regarding the 2021-2022 budget, there are \$6000.00 in pending license fees (for pending licenses) that the Board agreed should be added to the budget under revenue.

An in person meeting plan has been prepared by Mrs. Powell that is acceptable to the Board and in person meetings will start with the June 23 meeting.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session was not held.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Minutes from the Harford County Liquor Control Board Meeting on May 26, 2021, have been reviewed and approved by the following:

Walter A. Tilley III, Chair	James E. Welch, Commissioner
Paul J. Majewski, II, Vice Chair	Frederic L. Merchant, Commissioner
	Susan Burdette, Commissioner