



KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
MAYOR

CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
LICENSING BOARD
93 WASHINGTON STREET 2nd FLOOR
SALEM, MA 01970
TEL. 978-619-5631
FAX 978-744-1279

GARY M. BARRETT, CHAIRMAN
GARY F. SANTOS, JR.
DEBORAH A. GREEL

MELISSA PAGLIARO,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

LICENSING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Salem Licensing Board was held on Tuesday, **October 13, 2020** at 5:45 p.m., via ZOOM, an online video conference call system. Present on call were: Chairman Gary Barrett, members Deb Greel and Gary Santos, Jr., Clerk of the Board, Melissa Pagliaro and City Solicitor Elizabeth Rennard.

1. Application to approve various psychics at OMEN at 184 Essex St. for the month of October for the following applicants: Bruce Hoskins, Desiree Dudonnett-Olsen, Lillian Perry, Carol Parker, Michael Benzinger, Elisha Buhler, Virginia Barnes-Duke, Patricia Kelleher, Theresa Schrafft and Kathryn Boundy.

Sandra Wright, manager at OMEN presented the applications and said that they are for the Annual Fair to be held in OMEN. She said it is very scaled back from what it normally is. Ms. Rennard said that all of the paperwork is in order and recommends approval. Gary Santos motioned to approve. Deb Greel seconded. Gary Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

2. Application for two sub licensee fortune telling licenses at Angelica's, 192 Essex St. Applicants: Nicole Adkins and Carmelo Aresco.

Mr. Rennard said she recommends approval. Ms. Pagliaro said that these are for two annual readers at the store and all the paperwork is set. Gary Santos motioned to approve. Deb Greel seconded. Gary Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

3. Application for a Renewal of a Store Fortuneteller License under Maria Carles and three sub-readers and a change of address for Hermetic Arts Learning Center (formerly 105 Bridge St.), 272 Essex St. Applicants: David Newman, Juan Martinez and Megan Lorrey.

Maria Carles presented the applications and said she is co-owner with David Newman and their store was previously on Boston St. and they have now moved to Essex St. and would like to add the two readers. Ms. Pagliaro said that all of the paperwork was in order. Ms. Rennard recommended approval. Deb Greel motioned to approve. Gary Santos seconded. Gary Barret said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

4. Application for a Transfer of an Annual All Alcohol License at 94 Lafayette St. Applicant: MP Restaurant and Bar Corp. for license currently held by SKF Hospitality Group, Inc. d/b/a Stella's Restaurant & Wine Bar. Continued from previous meeting Sept. 28, 2020.

Ms. Pagliaro said the applicant asked for another continuance. Ms. Rennard said she would recommend the Board granting the extension as the buyer and landlord are trying to work the lease details out. Gary Santos motioned to approve. Deb Greel seconded. Gary Barrett said the motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

5. Application for a Class II Auto License at 50 Broadway (Continued from prior meeting). Applicant: Prestige Auto Sales, Inc. Applicant seeking authorization to sell up to ten vehicles. (amended to sell up to five vehicles)

Ms. Pagliaro said they have asked for an additional extension after the applicant contacted her to say he was still out of the country. Ms. Mackey of Broadway said she would like to see him produce a better drawing of the plans. Ms. Greel asked if the applicant was aware that the Board voted for him to produce better scaled drawings. Ms. Pagliaro said that the applicant had been notified. Deb Greel motioned to continue until the October 26 meeting. Gary Santos seconded. Gary Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

6. Discussion with the Hotel Salem, 203-209 Essex St. regarding noise complaints.

Joseph Keefe, manager of the Hotel Salem was present. He said he has been the manager the last 13 months. Ms. Rennard said that the complaint that was received was from a man that lives in the condos next door and had made some complaints over a long-time span. She said that the Board had limited the rooftop until 9pm for entertainment and that the speakers were to be placed inward. She said he recently wrote a letter to the Mayor with a timeline addressing his issues. Ms. Rennard said it would be better to discuss now while the roof top is still open. She said that other businesses have purchased meters to help control their own noise levels. She said that maybe it could be helpful for them to seat patrons toward the rear of the building. Mr. Keefe said that right now the rooftop is only operating at a capacity of 45 percent due to COVID. Ms. Rennard asked when roof closes. Mr. Keefe said at 10pm and that the season is over November 1. Mr. Santos asked what the roof capacity normally is. Mr. Keefe said 180 but is operating at 92. Ms. Greel said it might be a good idea to invest in a decibel reader for the future. Heather Famico of Essex St. said she would like to speak. She thanked the Board for bringing Hotel Salem and Village Tavern before them tonight. She said she didn't know why complainant wasn't notified. She said that the measurement from the ground will not be the same as the windows that are of equal height to this housing unit. Ms. Greel asked how the speakers are placed now. Mr. Keefe said they are and have been facing inward. Ms. Rennard stated that Ms. Pagliaro did email the complainant. Ms. Greel said that the Agendas are public and are posted as well. Mr. Barrett said there is no further discussion on this matter. Ms. Rennard said that she will have Sgt. Manninen reach out to the complainant. Ms. Greel asked if the police have a map of the area with levels. Ms. Rennard said there is a new map. Ms. Pagliaro said that police do have it and she will give it to them again as long as get one to the Officer in Charge this weekend.

7. Discussion with the Village Tavern, Museum Place Mall (Essex St.) regarding noise complaints.

Andrew Ingemi was present on the call. Ms. Rennard said this is just a follow up to previous complaints and the Board wanted to have a conversation with them while October is getting under way. She said the Village Tavern has been in constant contact with her to make sure they are staying within the guidelines. She said they have purchased their own meter and have been sending her photos of readings showing compliance. Ms. Rennard said the original complainant would like to speak. Heather Famico of 195 Essex St. She said that things have been much better and thanks them for purchasing a meter. She said there was one night recently she heard a group yelling that spoke of a knife. Ms. Greel asked Mr. Ingemi if there was dancing happening based on Ms. Famico's claim at a previous meeting. Andrew said there was not. He said that his security team is making sure everyone is COVID compliant. Mr. Barrett said there was no further discussion on this matter.

8. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 28, 2020. Deb Greel motioned to approve. Gary Santos seconded. Gary Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

9. New Business/Old Business:

Mr. Santos asked about the Street Performers on the Common. Ms. Rennard said that it is on a rolling basis. She said the backgrounds are staggered.

10. Adjournment: Deb Greel motioned to adjourn. Gary Santos seconded. Gary Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.