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LICENSING BOARD
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GARY M. BARRETT, CHAIRMAN
GARY F. SANTO, JR.
DEBORAH A. GREEL

SGT. MIKE BALL. SPEC. INV.

MELISSA PAGLIARO,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

LICENSING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Licensing Board was held on December 13, 2021 at 6pm. In attendance were: Chairman Gary Barrett (via phone), Members Gary Santo, Jr. and Deborah Greel, Solicitor Elizabeth Rennard, Sgt. John Doyle and Officer Moran, Assistant City Solicitor Sharyn Lubas and Clerk of the Board Melissa Pagliaro. Ms. Greel chaired in case of phone interference.

Ms. Rennard said that if anyone is present for the Village Tavern Hearing it has been continued until January and if anyone is here for the Howard Street Lodging House the application has been withdrawn.

1. Application for a One Day Liquor Licenses for a Holiday Dance at Hamilton Hall, Chestnut St. on December 18th from 8-11pm for 125 people. Applicant: Deb Costa, Hamilton Hall.

Robin Perry presented the application and said it was the Hall's annual fundraiser. She said they have cut it way back in numbers and duration and that it is for the most part dinner and leaving. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.

2. Application for a Transfer of an Annual All Alcohol License and an Entertainment License at 148 Derby St. Applicant: Brooke Trout Restaurant Group, LLC d/b/a Mercy Tavern.

Griffin Dunn owner of the Tin Whistle said that he is applying for the Mercy Tavern License. He said as of today he has submitted all the paperwork and that everything is going to be staying the same as far as hours and entertainment, etc. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.

3. Application for a Transfer of an Annual All Alcohol License at 2 Bridge St. Applicant: 2 Bridge St LLC d/b/a Black Star.

Tim Haigh and Attorney Andrew Upton presented the application. Tim said they are still working out all the details but that he has been in talks with neighbors regarding past noise issues and parking issues. He said they are thinking a NE Seafood themed restaurant and will want to use the outdoor patio space. He said it will all be a neighborhood friendly concept. Mr. Santo motioned to approve contingent upon all paperwork being completed. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.

4. Application for a Common Victuallers License and an Entertainment License at 60 Washington St. Applicant: Get Odd Enterprises Inc. d/b/a Odd Meter Coffee.

Eric Moers and co-owner Angelica Chayes presented the application. They said they have been at 60 Washington St. but haven't had time to focus on the seating. They said they are a specialty coffee shop and now that the cold is coming they would like to have indoor seating available. She said it is 1,100 sq ft and they are looking to have minimal seating and soft piped in background music. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.

5. Application for a Lodging House License at 10 Howard St. Applicant: Ocelot Operations LLC.
Application withdrawn.

6. Hearing with La Delicia, 75 Congress Street regarding an incident on October 22, 2021.
Hearing continued until the January 10, 2022 meeting. Glenn Foster appeared and said he was the head of the security team for La Delicia for the last year. Mr. Barrett asked if he was the only one to appear from the establishment tonight. Mr. Foster said he was because the owner asked him to represent the restaurant. Ms. Rennard asked if he was requesting a continuance. Mr. Foster said he was. Mr. Barrett said the licensee needs to be present at the next date. Ms. Greel said this is the second time. Mr. Santo motioned to continue until January 10, 2022. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0
7. Hearing with Village Tavern, 168 Essex Street regarding an incident on October 24, 2021. Continued to a meeting in January, 2022 pending return of Police Investigator.
8. Vote of the Board to renew 2022 licenses in the following categories: Liquor, Entertainment, and Inns/Lodging House licenses.
Mr. Santo asked if there have been any issues at 10 Howard. Ms. Rennard said the attorney for the owners has been in constant contact with the Police Community Impact Unit and there have been no calls to this Department. Ms. Greel asked if the Board can hold out on renewing this license. Ms. Pagliaro explained then there would be no valid license there come January 1st. Mr. Santo confirmed that if there is a sale it would come before the Board anyway. Ms. Rennard said it would. Mr. Santo motioned to approve the Liquor, Entertainment and Lodging House renewals for 2022 except 10 Howard which would be taken up at the next meeting. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.
9. Vote to authorize 2am closing on December 31, 2021- Jan. 1, 2022.
Ms. Rennard said this is something the Board has done for years for establishments for New Year's Eve and there has never been an issue. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.
10. Salem's Retreat, 96 North St. proposal for Annual All Alcohol License.
Ms. Rennard said the City Council had approved several home rule petitions for additional liquor licenses that were filed at the State House and this business was one of them. She said, however, the quota changed and after receiving the new numbers the City has a few licenses available in the City and the because of that the State rejected the ones that were pending Home Rule. She said she reached out to Nicole Burke of Salem's Retreat to apply for a license hopefully before her Seasonal runs out for the year. Nicole prepared a proposal to the Board (in file) and has advertised and notified abutters as per law. Nicole was asked to speak and said losing the liquor license would be very bad for the business. Ms. Greel said she would like to see this move forward. Ms. Rennard said the Board could hold a special meeting to approve the application. The Board agreed on December 27, 2021 at 4pm.
11. Approval of Licensing Board meeting minutes from November 15, 2021. Mr. Barret motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Roll call vote 3-0.
12. New Business/Old Business:
 - a) Ms. Greel said at some point she'd like to have a meeting regarding performers and the time place and manner issue before the 2022 season.
 - b) 10 Howard St may have another agreement to sell but no further details yet and Sgt Gross will get any reports from that address to Melissa.
13. Adjournment: 6:56 Mr. Santo motioned to adjourn. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 3-0