

Minutes of the Liquor Control Review Board
Tuesday, March 4, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall - Room 215

Present: Commissioners John Lipic, Jeanette Mancusi, Jane Miller and Sara Spivy (7:35); Chair Victoria Scaman

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Attorney Paul Stephanides; Tammie Grossman, Director of Development Customer Services

Call to Order: Chair Scaman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Agenda Approval

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 28, 2014. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved as presented.

Annual Renewals

Tammie Grossman reported that all March renewal applications have been submitted, with the exception of Il Vicolo. Poor Phil's is the only liquor license holder that has a tax payment due.

It was moved and seconded to approve the annual renewals for March as presented and noted that Il Vicolo is contingent upon its complete application for renewal and Poor Phil's taxes are paid in full before its license is renewed.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Lipic, Mancusi, Miller, and Spivy; Chair Scaman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion was approved.

New Business

Presentation by Downtown Oak Park

Paul stated that Downtown Oak Park could not make the meeting tonight and would like to make its presentation at the March 25, 2014 meeting.

Proposed Amendments to Chapter 3 of the Village Code

The proposed ordinance eliminates the surety bond requirement and replaces it with a criminal background check and fingerprinting provision. Paul Stephanides performed research and reported that the following municipalities do not have a surety bond requirement but do have an insurance requirement: Naperville, Elmwood Park, Berwyn, Chicago, Skokie, Forest Park, and River Forest. The fingerprinting requirement can be found in State statute, 235 ILCS 5/4-7, and provides that the local liquor commissioner shall have the right to require but does not mandate it. In addition to the \$250 application fee, applicants would be required to pay the fee for fingerprints, which is approximately \$35. The intent is to present the ordinance to the Village Board at its March 17, 2014 meeting.

It was moved and seconded to recommend to the Village Board adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 3, Article 2, Section 3-2-3 of the Village Code as presented by the Village Attorney.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Lipic, Mancusi, Miller, and Spivy; Chair Scaman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion was approved.

Old Business

Noon Whistle Brewing Company

The breakdown of negotiations between Noon Whistle and the landlord of the property at 18 Chicago Avenue was discussed. Tammie stated that lots of times where businesses are negotiating leases with property owners the deal falls through for reasons unknown or they just could not agree to the terms. Commissioner Lipic stated that the Noon Whistle came before us solely to discuss a class of license and beyond that their negotiations with the landlord were a private matter. Tammie stated that Noon Whistle is still looking at other properties in the Village and they are working with the OPEDC to try and find a different location. Paul stated that Noon Whistle will have to appear for the LCRB if it is able to secure a new location for a liquor license and it would also need zoning relief.

Papaspiros Agora Bistro

The result of the LCRB's previous meeting regarding the proposed liquor license of Papaspiros Agora Bistro was discussed. Paul had previously suggested having someone from the Police Department participate in applicable monthly meetings. Paul is going to meet with the Police

Department to discuss Police Department participation with regard to reports on background checks and other matters investigated by the Department. Chair Scaman stated it would also give the LCRB the opportunity to ask questions about liquor license stings, underage drinking and other applicable matters. As part of the Basset training, the LCRB wants restaurant owners, managers and bartenders to feel that they can partner with the Police Department and have a positive relationship with the Department.

Chair Scaman stated that in reviewing the Village Code liquor license provisions, the LCRB might need to take a closer look at the provisions. She recommended that the members review the Code and bring with them to the next meeting matters for Paul to review.

Administrative Report

Tammie Grossman stated that the Development Customer Services Department has been established which includes four stand-alone divisions: Business Services, Community Planning, Building and Property Standards and Housing and CDBG Programs. Tammie has been appointed the Director of the new department. Part of Tammie's responsibilities is to ensure that development occurs in a smooth process and to make sure that the four divisions are working together. She stated that the Department is in the process of upgrading its computer system. Tammie stated that the Department will look into how it can give better reports to the LCRB related to liquor licenses.

Adjournment

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul L. Stephanides, Board Liaison and Recording Secretary