



NORTHAMPTON LICENSE COMMISSION

City Hall, Office of the Mayor

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COMMISSIONERS

Brian Campedelli, Chair

Natasha Yakovlev

Helen Kahn

Executive Assistant

Annie Lesko

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MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street

4:00 p.m.

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by Commissioner Yakovlev at 4 p.m.
ROLL CALL – Commissioner Yakovlev and Commissioner Kahn were present. Commissioner Campedelli was absent.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING made by Commissioner Yakovlev

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

3. **UPDATE ON STATUS OF LIQUOR LICENSE – HAO CHEN, INC. D/B/A SAKURA BUFFET**

Attorney Ed Etheredge was present on behalf of Kevin Sun, property owner of 261 King Street and current owner of the annual all alcohol restaurant license #69. Mr. Etheredge stated that the property and license are actively being marketed together but there have not been any buyers thus far. Mr. Sun would like to sell the license and the property together but he is open to selling them separately. Mr. Etheredge requested a list of beer and wine license holders to inquire about whether any of those licensees are looking to upgrade their license to an all alcohol.

4. **APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO CLASS I CAR DEALER LICENSE**

Country Hyundai, Inc. d/b/a Genesis of Northampton
347 King St., Northampton

Carla Zayac was present for the application of a new class I car dealer license. After a brief clarifying discussion, Commissioner Yakovlev noted that the agenda item is not an amendment but rather an application for a new class I car dealer license. Country Hyundai will continue to operate as is and Genesis of Northampton will be added to the property as an additional and completely different dealership. Genesis is requiring that Country Hyundai and Genesis of Northampton be under separate licenses because they will need their own dealers' plates. Both DBAs will have the corporate name of Country Hyundai, Inc.

Commissioner Kahn moved to approve the application for a class I car dealer license. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion was approved 2-0.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW FARMER SERIES POURING PERMIT AND APPLICATIONS FOR A COMMON VICTUALLER AND AN ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE**

Artifact, LLC d/b/a Artifact Cider Project

34 N. Maple St., Florence

Proposed manager: Jake Mazar

Proposed entertainment: Quiet indoor music only – Wednesday and Thursday 4-10PM; Friday and Saturday 12-11PM; Sunday 12-8PM

Jake Mazar, co-owner and manager of Artifact Cider, was present for this application. Mazar stated that Artifact Cider Project started five years ago in Springfield and are now moving to Florence for a bigger facility. Artifact

uses all local apples and the new taproom will allow them to highlight orchards from the region. Artifact Cider Project is a celebrated cidery and have won national awards for their products. Artifact Cider will be housed in units 13, 14 and 15 at 34 M. Maple Street.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to open the public hearing at 4:10 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion was approved 2-0.

O'Brian Tomalin – stated he has been doing business with Artifact for a few years and Jake is always on point with deliveries and has a really great record. He furthered that the taproom will be a good addition to Florence because there isn't enough local cider. He furthered that the product is great and the business side of things is always handled very well.

Susan Fortgang – stated she knows Jake because of his catering company and he has been nothing but a top notch professional who is responsible and a wonderful person to do business with. She furthered that she is a fellow cider maker so she's excited about more cider being available for the community and Artifact uses all local apples so he's also supporting farmers.

Commissioner Yakovlev asked if anyone else wished to speak. Seeing no one, Commissioner Yakovlev moved to close the public hearing at 4:12 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion was approved 2-0.

Commissioner Kahn asked about the proposed entertainment. Mazar stated they will have quiet indoor music and possibly have a television or a projector in the small taproom.

Commissioner Kahn moved to approve the farmer series pouring permit along with the common victualler license and the entertainment license. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

6. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSE

Building 8 Brewing

Date/Time: Sunday, June 16, 2019, 12 – 6 p.m.

Location: 320 Riverside Dr.

Event: Courtyard Party for Beer Week

Type: Wine & Malt

O'Brian Tomalin was present for this application and stated he is hosting a party for the end of Beer Week and will have a few special beer releases. He stated the setup will be similar to that of previous events and everything will be fenced off. All the servers are TIPS certified and will be checking IDs and banding people at the door. The event is from Noon to 6 p.m. and about 20% will be kids so it's very family friendly. Sierra Grille will be making tacos and there will be free nonalcoholic beverages for the kids.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to approve the short term liquor license. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion was approved 2-0.

7. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSE

Building 8 Brewing

Date/Time: Sunday, June 9, 2019, 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Location: Northampton Center for the Arts, 33 Hawley St.

Event: Capital Campaign

Type: Wine & Malt

O'Brian Tomalin was present for this application. This event is being held outside in the parking lot along with three food trucks. Tomalin will have two of his beers at the event and will be located under a tent. He stated he will be checking IDs as he serves and will be stamping or banding people who have shown ID. The event goes until 7 p.m. however Tomalin has committed to being available until 5 p.m.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to approve the short term liquor license. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion was approved 2-0.

8. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSE

Bumski’s, LLC d/b/a Bumski’s Mobile Beer & Wine Bar

Date/Time: July 12, 2019, 3 – 9 p.m.
July 13, 2019, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
July 14, 2019, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Location: Three County Fairgrounds
Event: Northeast Balloon Festival
Type: Wine & Malt

Jamie Czajkowski and Veronica Parsloe were present for this application. Czajkowski is the owner of Bumski’s Mobile Beer & Wine Bar which is a Connecticut based mobile bar and catering. Parsloe is the Northeast Balloon Festival organizer. The Fairgrounds have given the event organizer’s permission to serve alcohol on their unlicensed premises. Czajkowski will be working with the fairgrounds and pouring their alcohol. He furthered that he will be checking IDs, banding patrons, and every server is TIPS certified. Czajkowski’s main pourers are about 50 years of age and do these events all the time. Czajkowski stated that two years ago he did an event at the Goshen Fairgrounds in which 55,000 people attended and Bumski’s was responsible for all the alcohol so they are used to handling large crowds. He stated he has an 8’x16’ trailer that is refrigerated with a designated area for IDing and wrist banding.

Commissioner Kahn moved to approve the short term liquor license. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

9. PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF LLC MANAGER, CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP INTEREST AND CHANGE OF MANAGER

Oxbow Wines, LLC d/b/a Provisions
30 Crafts Avenue, Northampton
Previous manager: Alexander Feinstein
Proposed manager: Andrew Bruce McAmis

Andrew Bruce McAmis and Alexander Feinstein were present for this application.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to remove the tabled discussion from the April meeting. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to open the public hearing at 4:24 p.m. Seeing no one wishing to comment, Commissioner Yakovlev moved to close the public hearing at 4:24 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

Mr. McAmis stated that his name has been taken off the wholesale license and he is no longer affiliated with it. Mr. McAmis provided the clerk with a list of wholesalers from the state and Yankee Distribution, LLC is listed as having an expired license. Yankee Distribution, LLC will be dissolved in a few weeks.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to approve the application for change of LLC manager, change of ownership interest and change of manager. Commission Kahn seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

10. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSE

Vision Entertainment, LLC
Date/Time: Saturday, August 10, 2019, 12 – 5 p.m.
Location: Northampton Center for the Arts, 33 Hawley St.
Event: Local Business Day Party
Type: Wine & Malt

Brenton Jenkins, owner and founder of Vision Entertainment based out of Springfield, was present for this application. He gave a brief overview of the event which is being called, “Hustle and Flow”. Jenkins stated he and his partner are looking to provide the opportunity for entrepreneurs and young creatives to come together with food and drinks to grow and promote their brands.

Jenkins stated that caterers will be set up on the second floor. The event will primarily be 18+ and everyone will be carded at the door. Jenkins is looking into an alternative way of identifying those who are 21+ as there are already wristbands for food.

Jenkins stated that there has been some miscommunication with the Arts Trust because Jenkins was told there is one liquor liability policy that covers all the events that take place at the Arts Trust. The clerk spoke with Melissa at the Arts Trust and she stated this is not the case. Jenkins said he has someone who is ready to write a one day liquor liability policy.

Jenkins is still working to secure two servers for the event. Once they have selected two individuals they will provide TIPS information.

Commissioner Kahn stated that the event is clearly in the works but before approving the application, the commission will need all the required paperwork. Jenkins will plan to attend the July meeting.

Jenkins stated this is not his first event as he held a New Year's Eve bash in Springfield with around 125 guests which is about how many guests he anticipates for the August event.

Commissioner Kahn moved to table the application until the commission received the appropriate paperwork for the event. Commission Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 3, 2019
- May 2, 2019

The April 3, 2019, minutes cannot be approved until Commissioner Campedelli is present.

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to approve the May 2, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

- 12. NEW BUSINESS** – The clerk informed the Commission that on March 12, 2019, Notch 8, Inc. was found in violation of sale or delivery of an alcoholic beverage to an intoxicated person (1 count). The ABCC suspended the license for a period of four (4) days of which two (2) days will be served and two (2) days will be held in abeyance for a period of two (2) years provided no further violations occur. In accordance with a decision dated November 8, 2017, the Commission had previously ordered a four (4) day license suspension of which two (2) days will be served and two (2) days will be held in abeyance for a period of two (2) years provided no further violations occur. Based on the violation found on March 12, 2019, the licensee violated the conditions of the 2-day suspension being held in abeyance. The Commission then ordered that suspension be served on in addition to the new two (2) day suspension. The licensee is to serve a total of four (4) days. The suspension shall commence on Monday, June 24 and terminate after close of business on Thursday, June 27, 2019. The license is to be delivered to the local licensing board on Monday, June 24, and will be returned on June 28, 2019. The clerk stated that she spoke with Jeremiah Micka recently who said that Notch 8, Inc. will be appealing this decision to Superior Court. The clerk will wait to hear if Notch 8, Inc. files in Superior Court. If she doesn't hear anything prior to the suspension date, she will call the ABCC to get clarification on how to proceed with the suspension.

13. ADJOURN

Commissioner Yakovlev moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed 2-0.

The next meeting of the Northampton License Commission is scheduled for July 3, 2019.