

**Meeting Minutes
Board of License Commissioners
Caroline County, Maryland**

DATE: Wednesday, July 1, 2020

PLACE: Virtually on Microsoft Teams

BOARD MEMBERS: Greg Eigenbrode, Chairman
Nicholas Loukides, Vice-Chair
Glen Plutschak, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Phillip Moore, Alcoholic Beverage Inspector
Crystal Dadds, Assistant Director of Codes
Melanie Smith, Board’s Administrative Asst.

Ms. Dadds called the meeting of the Caroline County Board of License Commissioners to order at 9:00 AM. Chairman Eigenbrode introduced the requests for temporary outdoor activities.

REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Market Street Public House – 200 Market Street, Denton

Ms. Dadds read the request of the owner of Market Street Public House to permit them to revise their current seating plan in accordance with Governor Hogan’s Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01 which allowed outdoor dining during the current emergency response level to the COVID crisis. They received permission from the Town of Denton to use the 2nd Street side and the parking space area in front of the venue for seating. They are also requesting permission to have a band play on the cordoned area of 2nd Street on occasion. The Police Department and Town of Denton do not oppose the request. They are also requesting permission to serve beer on occasion from their “Pub Bus”. This is in response to the sanitation issue during the COVID crisis. It has been determined that the virus is less likely to spread in an outdoor environment with the proper protection protocols as outlined in the CDC guidelines. A site plan was included with the written request.

Mr. Loukides asked if hours of operation were mentioned in the request. Ms. Dadds stated that she only knew that they have resumed their normal hours of 9 AM-11 PM Tuesday through Saturday and Sunday 12-8 PM. Chairman Eigenbrode was concerned about the road being closed where the bank drive thru exits onto 2nd Street. Ms. Dadds stated that the Town and the Police Department would have looked at all of those safety concerns before they approved the request.

Inspector Moore and Chairman Eigenbrode could attest that the patrons have been relaxed and respectful when they have been in the area. Ms. Dadds suggested that they include any restrictions they wish to have for outdoor music and to mention that the temporary permission of this request will be revoked when the Governor's Executive Order is lifted.

Motion: Mr. Loukides made a motion to approve the Market Street Pub's request to have outdoor music no later than their current hours of operation. The request is approved as long as the Governors Executive Order allowing outside seating is in place and the approval will be revoked when the Order is removed.

Second: Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

Roadhouse 313 – 11568 Greensboro Rd. Greensboro

Chairman Eigenbrode moved to the next request. Ms. Dadds explained that Roadhouse 313 is also requesting to extend their premise in accordance with Governor Hogan's Executive Order allowing outdoor dining during the current level of the COVID crisis. She noted the photos of their outdoor seating included in the request. The areas seat 2 to 6 people but not more than 6. The tables are arranged to respect social distancing requirements.

The owner is also asking for permission to have outdoor music Friday and Saturday nights from 5-9 PM. Should the weather prevent them from playing outside they request approval to move the band inside with the social distancing and maximum occupancy requirements followed.

They are also asking to have a small bar and beer tubs in the approved outside area to practice proper sanitation and social distancing requirements in effect. Mr. Plutschak asked Inspector Moore if he has inspected the establishment. Inspector Moore stated that he has and had found them to be busier than usual. He was not aware of any problems at this establishment.

Motion: Mr. Plutschak made a motion to approve Roadhouse's request for outdoor seating and serving and to have outdoor music no later than 9 PM on Fridays and Saturdays. The request is approved as long as the Governors Executive Order allowing outside seating is in place and the approval will be revoked when the Order is removed.

Second: Mr. Loukides seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 26, 2020 MINUTES

Mr. Plutschak asked Ms. Dadds and Inspector Moore about the subjects discussed at the February meeting. Inspector Moore noted that the information the Board asked him to research had to be postponed due to the COVID crisis. Normal government business has been on hold since March, both County and Statewide. It is still on his task list and will be addressed when business returns to normal.

Ms. Dadds explained that the second subject regarding Inspector Moore becoming trained as a TIPS trainer was approved by the Commissioners for the fiscal year that begins today. They will look into certified classes and book one as soon as possible

Motion: Mr. Loukides made a motion to approve the February 26, 2020 meeting minutes as written.

Second: Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

INSPECTORS REPORT

Inspector Moore reported that he has asked several businesses if they had any needs he could help with and advised them when it was necessary to make their requests known to the Board. He has not observed any problems. However, he has witnessed social distancing rules sometimes neglected. He closed his report by saying that business has been low key and patrons are mostly dining out with minimum drinking.

Chairman Eigenbrode stated that the Board desires to support the business owners and keep them open as long as possible during this crisis. They have been especially affected by this crisis.

DISCUSSION

The Board discussed processes of the virtual meeting in Microsoft Teams. This is the first hearing the Department has conducted in Microsoft Teams. Mr. Plutschak asked if documents could be viewed on Teams like they do for "Zoom" meetings. Ms. Dadds was unsuccessful at doing so during this meeting but assured them this will be resolved by the next hearing.

Mr. Loukides was at a disadvantage because he needed to attend the meeting via phone and could not see everyone's faces. He hopes to be able to join virtually at the next meeting.

Ms. Dadds stated that she would let the Board know if there is anything on the Agenda for July 22. The only thing she may have is the license renewals but is hesitant about proceeding until the Governors Executive Order is lifted due to the fact that everyone has not filed their renewal applications.

Motion: Mr. Loukides made a motion to adjourn at 9:37 AM.

Second: Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).



Minutes prepared by: Melanie Smith