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MELISSA MOJICA,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

LICENSING BOARD MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

A meeting of the Licensing Board was held on April 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Gary Barrett and members Deborah Greel and Gary Santo (joined at 6:31 pm), Melissa Mojica, Clerk of the Board and Special Investigator, Sgt. Mike Ball and City Solicitor, Elizabeth Rennard.

1. Application for a One Day Liquor License at Old Town Hall on April 29, 2023 from 8-11pm for 80 people for an after Wedding Party. Applicant: Angela Anthony.

Ms. Anthony said that her other venue fell through at the last minute. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.
2. Application for two sub licensee Fortune telling licenses for Magic Parlor, Essex St. Applicants: Charlotte Michaels and Jessica Langberg.

Rob Fitz owner of Magic Parlor presented the applications and said he would like to add the two as readers to his store. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.
3. Application for renewal of Store Fortune telling license and two sub licensee Fortune telling licenses for Hermetic Arts, Essex St. Applicants: Charlotte Michaels and Jessica Langberg.

No one was present. Mr. Barrett said applications can be put on next Agenda.
4. Application for a sub licensee fortune teller at Ascend, 192 Essex St. Applicant: Elizabeth Simmons.

No one was present. Mr. Barrett said application can be put on next Agenda.
5. Application for a renewal of a Store Fortune telling Licensee and two sub licensees. Applicant: Hauswitch, 144 Washington St and two subs; Melissa Nierman and Kalyn Anderson.

Melissa Nierman presented the applications. She said they are renewing the Store and two sublicensee license. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.
6. Application for One Day Liquor License for Omen, 184 Essex St., April 29, 2023 from 6-7pm, 50 people.

Meg, the manager, presented the application. She said its for a small Sabbat event and will be self serve. Ms. Greel asked about the self-serve. Mr. Barrett said this is a business not a home so they would need someone to be serving. Ms. Rennard said someone TIPS certified need to be managing the liquor and the distribution of it. Meg said that they have an employee who is a server as well and is TIPS certified. Ms. Greel motioned to approve with a TIPS certified server. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.
7. Application for a Common Victualler and Entertainment License at 26 Front St. Applicant: Taylor & Holloway, LLC d/b/a Whimsy's.

Alena Taylor and Shelley Hollway presented the application. Ms. Taylor said they are the new owners of the former Maria's Sweet Something. She said they have applied for a Common Victualler license and entertainment to play a radio for background music. Mr. Barrett asked what they will be serving, and Ms. Taylor said still chocolate and ice cream and an expanded gift/retail section. Ms. Greel motioned to approve pending CORI. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.

8. Application for a Common Victualler and Entertainment License at 36 Jefferson Ave. Applicant: On the Grind Cafe, LLC d/b/a On the Grind Café.

Dave Potter, owner, presented the application. He said he is opening a new coffee shop and will be selling coffee, sandwiches, pastry and Bagel World bagels. He said they re almost ready to open. He said he has an application in to the City Council to be allowed to open at 5am and his hours will be seven days a week 5am-7pm. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Barrett seconded. Roll call vote 2-0.

***Member Gary Santo joined the meeting @6:31 pm.**

9. Application to amend an Entertainment License at 57 Loring Ave. to include open mic, 7 days a week from 4-11pm. Applicant: Jaho Coffee Roaster.

Attorney Thomas Miller presented the application. He said that the owner, Anil, is on the call but is ill and doesn't have much of a voice. He said he is looking to amend his entertainment application to include open mic which would be acoustic and amplified, for local artist. Ms. Greel said she is concerned about the hours as lots of families live close by. Atty. Miller said these are local acts, big bands. Ms. Greel said the concern is noise and the establishments doors are opening in closing with patrons coming and going. She said seven nights until 11pm seems like a lot. Mr. Mr. Mezini said he would like to note that this is a stand alone building and it is well insulated. He said they close at 11 so any music would end about 10:30pm. Mr. Santo said with breakdown time maybe 10pm would be better. Ms. Greel said even a 10:30 end time may be better. Mr. Santo motioned to approve open mic hours from 4-10:30 pm, seven days a week. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

10. Application for two one day Entertainment Licenses on June 11, 2023 for a Polish Fest with a seven piece amplified band from 12-6pm and on May 21, 2023 for a Employee market with live amplified music acts from 12-6pm. Applicant: Notch Brewing, 283R Derby St.

Chris Lohring, owner, presented the application. He said there will be live music for both events and both are the same setup and the hours will be from 12noon-6pm. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

11. Application to Change Officers/Directors and Change the Manager at 282 Derby St. Applicant: All Souls, LLC d/b/a All Souls.

Jennifer Tran, co-owner, presented the application along with attorney Christina Granese. Ms. Tran said nothing is changing at the restaurant this is just legal changes to the paperwork for the LLC and manager of record at the restaurant. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

12. Application for an Annual on Premise Farmers Series Pouring Permit for Malt Beverages at 76 Lafayette St. Unit #100. Applicant: Couch Dog Brewing Co., LLC.

Adam Shoemaker, owner, presented the application. He said this is a new brewery /tap room and will serve their own product on site. Md. Rennard said they have their State license already to brew. Mr. Greel motioned to approve contingent upon approvals from the Health and Building Departments. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

13. Application for a Change of Location for an Annual All Alcohol License to 76 Wharf St. Applicant: Longboards.

Matthew Mattera, owner, presented the application. He said they are extremely excited to be moving to a new and bigger space. He said this all began for him with a little store in Pickering Wharf. He said they have great support moving to this new location. He said in 12 years there are

only two original businesses left and there have been two attempts at his new location that have not worked. Ms. Greel asked about entertainment. Mr. Mattera said for now it will remain as he has with TV and radio but he will come back to amend it. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

14. Application for a Transfer of an Annual Wine and Malt Package Store at 235 Lafayette St. Applicant: Farhan & Sajid Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Friendly Mini Mart.

Attorney Truwax presented the application. He said Mr. Rahmen has one hundred percent ownership and will be listed as the manager of the store. He said they are also seeking to Pledge the License to the current owners, Shree Om. He said the store has a scanner and a longtime employee will be staying on. He said nothing is changing with the layout of the store. Ms. Greel asked if the longtime employee is TIPS certified. Attorney Truwax said he wasn't sure about that. Ms. Rennard said it is required. Ms. Greel motioned to approve pending TIPS certification of employees and a Pledge of the License. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

15. Review and selection of proposals in response to RFP for available licenses. Proposals submitted by Jaho and Aaron/Shanna Chambers.

*Mr. & Mrs. Chambers presented the application. Mr. Chambers said they opened Settler on Lynde Street just before COVID and survived that and now they are ready to open another space at 65 Washington at the new Brix building. Ms. Rennard said they are looking for their proposal to be accepted through the RFP process and if accepted they will get an application before the Board to go to the ABCC for approval. Ms. Greel asked what happens if it falls through for some reason. Ms. Rennard said it would just come back to the City and we would issue another RFP. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

*Attorney Miller presented the proposal to the Board on behalf of Anil Mezini for Jaho at 57 Loring Ave. He said Jaho has two other Salem locations with alcohol and has never had any issues. He said Jaho met all requirements of the RFP and is asking the Board to grant Mr. Mezini the license for this location. Ward 5, Councilor Jeff Cohen, said he lives on Hancock Street and is grateful for the Canal St. location. He said the establishment provides a sense of community and is a great meeting space. He said Anil is a SSU alum and is a strong part of the community. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

16. Hearing with La Delicia, 75 Congress St. regarding their entertainment license.

Ms. Rennard noted that the interpret was present and no one from the establishment was present for the Hearing. She suggested moving it to the meeting on May 8, 2023. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

17. Approval of seasonal outdoor dining applications for the following locations:

120 WASHINGTON STREET – O'Neill's, Gulu Gulu and Flying Saucer

2 EAST INDIA SQUARE – Ny Deli Pizza

197 DERBY STREET - Jaho

2 EAST INDIA SQUARE – Thai Place

121 ESSEX STREET – Olde Main St Pub

2 LYNDE STREET - Settler

225 DERBY STREET – Regatta Bar

241 243 JEFFERSON AVENUE -Tin Whistle

107 ESSEX STREET – Bella Verona

104 BOSTON STREET - AOH

155 WASHINGTON STREET – Adriatic

91 95 DERBY STREET - VFW
278 282 DERBY STREET – All Souls
76 LAFAYETTE STREET – Howling Wolf
90 WASHINGTON STREET - Koto
2 EAST INDIA SQUARE- Village Tavern
76 LAFAYETTE STREET – Couch Dog
41 LAFAYETTE STREET – Barrio
142 148 DERBY STREET – Mercy Tavern
288 DERBY STREET - Bambolina
203 ESSEX STREET – Hotel Salem
125 WASHINGTON STREET - Ledger
133 WASHINGTON STREET – Boston Burger

Ms. Rennard said the State moved to expand the outdoor dining through COVID regulations for one more year and expects this will be the last year. She said the list shows who has applied for outdoor dining for 2023. She said only one id to be removed off of the list which is Regatta Pub. She said they are not expanding outdoor seating beyond what they are approved for on their permanent annual license. She said the Board authorizes square footage and the location of the patio. She said one establishment, Bella Verona on Essex St., received some input from the Police Department and PD will not approve the application without Councils approval to close the street. She said that she recommends that Bella Verona petition City Council for the approval. She said all the other applications are exactly the same as they have been and are places in designated areas or parking spaces.

Mr. Barrett opened this item up for comments to the public audience.

Steve Kapanis said that the continued outdoor dining need to be ADA compliant. He said there are still issues with compliance and would ask the Board to remind the restaurants that they need to be compliant.

Geoff Millar said he echoes what Steve said and it needs to be a requirement. He said that as far as not granting Bella Verona an outdoor license that the outdoor seating over there is no different that the parking spaces being taken over for outdoor dining in other areas.

Jeff Cohen said he speaks to this as a resident and the liaison to the Disability Commission and echoes what Steve said. He said the City is better with outdoor dining. He said he looks forward to Bella Verona coming before the Council.

Mr. Barrett asked Ms. Rennard to make sure Carlos, owner at Bella Verona has everything he needs to move forward to petition the Council and we will continue their application until then. Ms. Rennard recommend that the rest be approved and hold Bella Verona until the May 8th meeting. Ms. Greel said she agrees but wanted to add that some of the barriers are getting old and look ragged and making sure barriers are placed in the safest position. Ms. Rennard say Mr. Ray Jodoin was working with Police on the barrier placement and in that she will check to see what if anything the City has to help repaint the barriers and that all outdoor seating plans are ADA acceptable. Carlos from Bella Verona asked how the dining taking up parking spaces is looked at differently than a road closure. He said a lot of the outdoor dining is places in public parking spaces. Ms. Rennard said it was a concern from one abutter that went to the Police Dept. that sparked this issue. Mr. Santo motioned to approve the outdoor dining plans for 2023 with the exception of Bella Verona until they receive approval and that all approvals must be ADA compliant. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said the motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

18. Approval of Meeting minutes from March 13th & 27th, 2023. Continue to May 8th meeting for approval.

19. Old/New Business/Adjournment:

New: Mr. Barrett asked if Ms. Mojica can add on the Fortune telling applications in bold that “applications will not be approved if no one is present at the meeting”.