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MELISSA PAGLIARO,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

LICENSING BOARD MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

A meeting of the Licensing Board was held on April 11, 2022 at 6 p.m. In attendance were: Chairman Gary Barrett and members Deborah Greel and Gary Santo, Jr., Melissa Pagliaro, Clerk of the Board and City Solicitor Beth Rennard. Absent was: Special Investigator, Mike Ball.

1. Application for a One Day Liquor License on May 3, 2022, for a Cinco de Mayo for 70 people from 4-7 p.m. at 401 Bridge St. Applicant: Community Life Center.

Ms. McCarthy presented the application. She said they haven't had events in two years and this is just to serve beer & wine if wanted. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

2. Application for up to six Automatic Amusements. Applicant: Essex Pizza, Witch City Mall.

David Boltz presented the application. He said they have four machines now but would like up to six possibly. Ms. Greel asked where they would be placed. Mr. Boltz said they would be to the left of the counter. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

3. Application for a renewal of a Store Fortune telling License at 131 Essex St. Applicant: New England Magic, Joanna Thomas.

Ms. Thomas presented the application for renewal and said she has had a store license since 2005. Ms. Rennard said that the CORI is pending. Mr. Santo motioned to approve pending the CORI. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

4. Application to review a request to amend an Entertainment License permanently to include outdoor live theatrical performances. Applicant: Gulu Gulu Café, 247 Essex St.

Steve Feldman, owner, presented the application. Ms. Rennard said he is looking to amend the license permanently to have outdoor live entertainment on Sundays from 12-6 after a trial last year. Mr. Barrett asked what he would like to include. Mr. Feldman said that he would like to continue to have the drag shows on Sundays between 12 and 6pm but generally the show just last a few hours. Ms. Rennard said there were noise complaints last year so recommended the hours be from 12-6 but that the show doesn't exceed three hours on Sundays. Ms. Greel asked if this should be a trial again or approval after complaints last year and if this goes all year. Mr. Feldman said usually until the first week of November. Ms. Rennard said its probably best to amend and if there are any issues we can have them back in. Mr. Santo asked about the decibel level. Ms. Rennard said she would make the motion subject to the noise ordinance. Mr. Santo motioned to approve to permanently add live outdoor theatrical performances on Sundays from 12-6pm, and no show to exceed three hours and subject to the noise ordinance. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

5. Application for a Change of Manager at Witch City Hibachi, 94 Lafayette St. Applicant: Kiley Boswell.

Ms. Boswell presented the application. Mr. Barrett asked for her history. Ms. Boswell said she is new to Salem and managed the restaurant in PA. Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

6. Application for a Change of Manager at Tee Time Grill, Salem Golf Course. Applicant: Scott Macdonald.

Roxanne Emerson presented the application and said Mr. Macdonald had another meeting tonight. She said Scott has been at Tee Time for six years. Mr. Santo motioned to approve. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

7. Application for a Transfer of an Annual All Alcohol Liquor License and for an Entertainment License at 76 Lafayette Street. Applicant: Howling Wolf Mexican Cantina Corp. d/b/a Howling Wolf.

Jeremy Jones, current owner and applicant Anthony Ackil presented the application. Mr. Jones said they have had the Wolf for seven years incident free. Mr. Ackil said he loves Salem and is very vigilant as he owns several other restaurants. He said they will be keeping the current manager in place. Ms. Rennard said there is still some paperwork to be submitted. Mr. Ackil said it will be completed soon. Mr. Santo asked about entertainment. Mr. Ackil said just amplified piped in music 7 days a week. Ms. Greel motioned to approve contingent upon paperwork being submitted. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.

8. Vote to authorize applications for outdoor dining for the 2022 season for the following: Adriatic Restaurant, All Souls Lounge, Bambolina Restaurant, Bella Verona, Boston Burger Co, Essex Pizza, Fountain Place, Flying Saucer Pizza Co, Gulu Gulu Café, Howling Wolf Taqueria, Huang Ting (Koto), Jolie Tea Co, Ledger, Opus, Olde Main Street Pub, Rosadela's, Salem Waterfront Hotel & Suites, Regatta Pub, Settler, Sidelines, Thai Hut, Hotel Salem, Tin Whistle, Ugly Mug, Turner's and Village Tavern.

Ms. Rennard presented the applications. She said the outdoor dining has been extended temporarily again through 2022. She said the Licensing Department created an application process for 2022. She said these applications are all subject to the Building and Health Departments as well and that all platforms must be ADA compliant. She said each of the establishments are responsible for building their own platforms but the City has some money for reimbursement to help if needed. A member of the public, Mr. Steve Kapantais said that this will be the third year for the Waterfront Hotel Regatta Bar and Beer Tent space and that the first year he understands it was a rush to get things done and last year, year two he worked with Ms. Rennard around ADA issues but there were still many violations. He added that this year already there are even more and he would suggest the Board having have them address these issues before approving their applications. He said the attorney for these applications told the Board they would make corrections and they did not. Ms. Rennard said she spoke to Attorney Egan and they requested to continue the matter until the next meeting.

Ms. Rennard went through the applications and noted the following:

Adriatic -same as last year but the sidewalk shall remain open during the day while they are closed.

All Souls will need a letter from the two direct abutters and property owner.

Bambolina will also need a letter from the building owner.

Boston Burger Co, Essex Pizza, Fountain Place, Flying Saucer Pizza Co, Gulu Gulu Café are the same as last year

Bella Verona will be cut down to 24 seats to push the area back a bit and also that small Hawthorne Blvd. would be kept open this year. She said police feel that will be better for the area at Bella Verona.

City would like to see Howling Wolf try the seating in the parking lot instead of street front. Mr. Jones, current owner, said that the parking lot is not feasible and the distance makes serving and seeing difficult for them and also RCG will not allow them to use of the back door. He said the first year wasn't great but last year they moved the platform and the sidewalk was open and it worked great. He said he doesn't understand why it cannot stay as it has been. Ms. Rennard said of the complaints were the design of the platform and some of the screening falling off and it didn't look good. Mr. Jones said that was the first year in a rush to get it done. He said last year it worked and looked good. He said last year he hired a contractor. Ms. Rennard said it would be subject to Building Dept. approval. She also wanted to note that the City is discouraging tents for everyone. Ms. Greel suggested maybe Howling Wolf paint their lattice and wooden area.

Koto shall have a smaller space as there is to be no seating in front of Red Lion Smoke Shop, that they need to build a trap door for the gas manhole, they also need a letter from the Bike Shop and they need to leave access open to the fire hydrant.

La Delicia on Congress St. will be continued until 4/25.

Ledger has an engineering plan and seating will be against the building and wooden sidewalk will be constructed.

Ugly Mug and O'Neills will work together to create a buildout same as last year.

Jolie Tea Co., Opus, and Olde Main Street Pub will be the same as last year

Roseadela's proposed 4 four top tables. Ms. Rennard said that should be contingent on space and it may work better with three two tops and they need to delineate the space. Recommend approval subject to city review of space.

Hotel Salem is same as last year. It is a very high traffic area and that they need to make sure that the space is visible and the tables are placed safely.

Village Tavern applied to expand restaurant serving area and add a beer tent area and food cart. They are seeking permission to do what they do in October all year round. Mr. Ingemi of Village Tavern said they feel there is a need for grab and go food downtown. He said in the plan they submitted there is a four foot fenced area so no alcohol can be passed out of area of beer tent. Ms. Greel said her concern is what happens when everyone wants to do this. Mr. Ingemi said they are different because they aren't impeding anything. Mr. Santo said he can see logic on food side not on beer side. Mr. Ingemi said they already serve beer out on their permanent outdoor patio. He said they can easily say they will only serve beer with food. The Board expressed interest to hear from police and health depts. Ms. Rennard said if Board has more questions or needs more information, the matter could be continued to the meeting on the 25th of April. Mr. Barrett said he think they should wait.

Ms. Rennard said Mercy Tavern will be subject to the Building Dept. approval. She said the sidewalks will be changing there in the fall.

She said an application for Witch's Brew was just received today so that will be on the next meeting. Ms. Rennard said the VFW is also present tonight but their application wasn't received in time so that will also go on for the next meeting. Ms. Rennard informed the Board that there are already complaints about Entertainment for the VFW.

Mr. Santo motioned to approve all of the above, as recommended by the Solicitor, for outdoor dining and added that there are to be not tents unless absolutely necessary and must also be approved by Health and Building Departments. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion

carries. Roll call vote 3-0. Restaurants to be held for outdoor dining until the meeting on April 25th: La Delicia, Waterfront Hotel , Regatta, Witch's Brew, VFW and Village Tavern.

9. Old/New Business: None
10. Adjournment: 7:25pm. Ms. Greel motioned to adjourn. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Roll call vote 3-0.