MINUTES LICENSE COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2019

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE Revere License Commission was called to order by Chairman Robert Selevitch at 3:00 p.m. on February 20, 2019. Commissioner Linda Guinasso, Commissioner John M. LaCroix, Police Lt. Sean Randall, Liaison with the Revere License Commission, and Maggie Haney, Recording Secretary, present.

Salute to the Flag by the members of the Revere License Commission and those in attendance.

Vote to accept Minutes: Vote to accept the Minutes of 1/23/19.

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the minutes.

VOTED ON THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

St. Mary's Holy Name Society

670 Washington Avenue Stephen Fielding, Event Manager

Application for a Special Malt/Wine, Common Victualler, & Entertainment License: Application of the St. Mary's Holy Name Society for a special one-day license for Malt/Wine, Common Victualler, and Entertainment, said license to be exercised at 670 Washington Avenue on Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. The event will be a St. Paddy's Day Dinner Dance, with a DJ, music, and dinner.

The applicant was unable to appear due to an emergency, which left no time to arrange a replacement to represent the application. As this is an annual event, and in deference to the circumstances, the Commission considered the application.

There were neither opponents nor proponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

Immaculate Conception Parish School

127 Winthrop Avenue Stephen Hanley, Event Manager

Application for a Special Malt/Wine, Common Victualler, & Entertainment License: Application of the Immaculate Conception Parish School for a special one-day license for Malt/Wine, Common Victualler, and Entertainment, said license to be exercised at 127 Winthrop Avenue on Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 6 p.m. – 11 p.m. The event will be a Pot of Gold fundraiser, with a DJ, music, and dinner.

Donna Stracey, academic coordinator, appeared for the application. This is an annual fundraising event held by the school.

There were neither opponents nor proponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

Los Hornitos, LLC

2 Park Avenue Sandra Barbosa, Manager

<u>Application for Change of Hours:</u> Application of Los Hornitos, LLC for a change of number of hours to 6 a.m. -9 p.m. Current hours are 6 a.m. -7 p.m.

Sandra Barbosa and Frank Santanello appeared for the application. They are requesting the change based upon customer feedback and a wish to match the hours of surrounding similar businesses.

There were neither proponents nor opponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

Ocean Liquors, Inc.

210 Shirley Avenue Ralph Vito, Manager

<u>Application for a Change of Officers/Directors:</u> Application of Ocean Liquors, Inc. for a Change of Officers/Directors to add Virginia Vito as Secretary and Director.

Ralph Vito and Virginia Vito appeared for the application. This change is for Mr. Vito to appoint his wife as an officer of their business. There are no proposed changes to the business.

City Councillor Ira Novoselsky spoke on behalf of the application. There were no opponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

Fiesta Shows

Seabrook, NH John Flynn, Manager

<u>Application for a Carnival License:</u> Application of Fiesta Shows for a Carnival license to be exercised at the Showcase Cinemas Revere parking lot, 565 Squire Road, from March 21, 2019 - April 15, 2019, with requested hours of operation being 3 p.m. -11 p.m.

John Flynn appeared for the application. They will continue with the enhanced security procedures implemented last year. In other respects, the operation of the carnival will be as customary.

City Councillor John Powers, Jayne D'Angelo, president of the McCarthy/Trifone Recreation Committee, and City Councillor Ira Novoselsky all spoke in favor of the application. There were no opponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

La Esquina del Sabor, Inc.

1 Unity Avenue Alba Lucia Balbin, Manager <u>Application for Change of Hours:</u> Application of La Esquina del Sabor, Inc. for a change of number of hours to Monday – Thursday 6 a.m. – 10:30 p.m., Friday – Sunday 6 a.m. – 3 a.m. Current hours are 6 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.

The applicant was neither present nor represented when called. The Commission continued the matter until the next meeting.

H & R Partners, Inc. d/b/a **Valsos Table & Bar** 139-141 Shirley Avenue Alexander Herrera, Manager

<u>Application for Change of License Category:</u> Application of H & R Partners, Inc. d/b/a Valsos Table & Bar for a change of license category from Malt/Wine Restaurant to All Alcohol Restaurant.

Attorney Lee Rajsich represented the applicants, Alexander Herrera and Carolina Ravillas, who were also present. The applicants are still in the process of renovating their restaurant, and would like an all alcohol license in order to compete with other similar licenses in the area. They also would like to capitalize on the 'craft cocktail' trend. They say they will be serving a light tapas menu until 12:30 a.m.

Commissioner Guinasso would rather see them engage in a trial period with a beer and wine license. Mr. Herrera offered to change their closing hour to 1 a.m. from 2 a.m. if that would make an all alcohol license more palatable to the Commission.

City Councillor Ira Novoselsky spoke in favor of the application, and recommended a 1 a.m. closing. There were no opponents when called.

Chairman Selevitch moved to approve the application with an amended closing hour of 1 a.m. Commissioner LaCroix seconded the motion, and it was VOTED to approve the application with an amended closing hour of 1 a.m. Commissioner Guinasso voted in opposition.

GA Restaurant II, Inc. d/b/a **Santorini Restaurant** 376 Revere Beach Boulevard Stavroula Fotopoulos, Manager

Application for Change of License Category and Change of Hours: Application of GA Restaurant II, Inc. d/b/a Santorini Restaurant for a change of license category from Malt/Wine Restaurant to All Alcohol Restaurant, and a change of hours to 6 a.m. – 1 a.m. Current hours are Sunday 11 a.m. – 12 a.m., Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 12 a.m.

Stavroula Fotopoulos appeared for the application, accompanied by Craig Halajian. They would like to be open for breakfast and to be able to offer drinks with dinner. Their intention is to offer a fine dining experience. Their wait staff will be trained in alcohol service, and they are upgrading their fire alarm system.

City Councillor John Powers spoke in favor of the application. There were no opponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

306 Revere Street, LLC d/b/a **D'Amelio's Restaurant** 306 Revere Street Antonietta D'Amelio, Manager

Application for Transfer of an All Alcohol Restaurant License: Application of 306 Revere Street, LLC d/b/a D'Amelio's Restaurant, 306 Revere Street, Antonietta D'Amelio, Manager for transfer of an All Alcohol Restaurant license from Off The Boat, Inc., said license to be exercised at the same address. All operations to remain the same. – Continued from December meeting.

Antonietta D'Amelio appeared for the application. All issues that had delayed her application have been resolved.

There were neither opponents nor proponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

The following applications were taken out of order:

Joseph Leon Mottolo Post #4524 V.F.W. U.S., Inc. 61 Lucia Avenue, 1st story Daniel Zwicker, Manager

<u>Application for Alteration of Premises:</u> Application of Joseph Leon Mottolo Post #4524 V.F.W. U.S., Inc. for an alteration of premises to limit their licensed premises to the first story of 61 Lucia Avenue in order to allow DeMaino's Restaurant, Inc. to obtain a license for the second story of the same address.

Daniel Zwicker appeared for the application. In order to secure a more regular income for the club, they wish to lease out the large function room on the 2nd story to the owners of DeMaino's Restaurant, who will run an event catering business at that location. The club will function as landlord of that floor only, and is therefore applying to remove their license from the leased floor. The club will continue to use the function room on the first story.

Two residents, Paul and Andrea Belschner, raised concerns about parking in the neighborhood when both function rooms are in use. The parking lot at the location is insufficient to accommodate a capacity crowd. Another resident, Mary Gandolfo, spoke in opposition with the same concerns. The applicants stated that they will be mindful of parking issues and that they frequently arrange to use the parking lot at St. Mary's for excess parking.

The Commission pointed out that the applications involve no change of use, as the property has served as a function hall for many years. There were no proponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

DeMaino's Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a **DeMaino's at Casa Lucia** 61 Lucia Avenue, 2nd story Leonard DeMaino, Jr., Manager

Application for a New All Alcohol General On-Premises License: Application of DeMaino's Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a DeMaino's at Casa Lucia for an All Alcohol General On-Premises license to be exercised on the second story of 61 Lucia Avenue.

Leonard DeMaino Sr. and Leonard DeMaino Jr. appeared for the application. Their intent is to lease the 2nd story of the property to operate an event catering business. They are asking for a closing hour of 1 a.m., which is earlier than the club's closing hour, and will limit the number of people in any event to 250. They promised to make every effort to maintain a good relationship with neighboring residents.

Mary Gandolfo reiterated her opposition to the plan. There were no other opponents and no proponents when called. Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Guinasso, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to approve the application.

Revere Lodge Loyal Order of Moose #1272

470 Broadway Wesley Clemons, Manager

<u>Application for Change of Officers and Change of Manager:</u> Application of Revere Lodge Loyal Order of Moose #1272 for a change of manager to Joseph Cheffro from Wesley Clemons, and a change of officers to reflect new slate of club officers. – **Continued from December meeting.**

Moose International Regional Manager Bruce Powell appeared for the application, accompanied by Jennifer Santana, bar manager, and several unnamed members of the club. They acknowledged a continued failure to pay any outstanding taxes or fees; a closure by the parent organization without notification, which is in violation of state law; and continued failure to pass legally required inspections. The parent organization has, for the second time in six months, replaced the entire board of officers, which rendered their application for change of officers and change of manager completely invalid. They are now approaching a year without a license manager, and seven months without an approved board of officers.

They requested another continuance. Chairman Selevitch pointed out that the matter has been continued since December, and that the club has made no steps toward rectifying any of the outstanding issues in the intervening time, and has, in fact, only gotten worse. Commissioner Guinasso, after disclosing that she has been a member of the club for thirty years, but that this won't impact any decision in the matter, expressed concerns about the non-payment of taxes, particularly as the club has had several functions, which argues that some money is being paid to them. She also raised the continuing issue of a complete lack of communication from the club to the License Commission. The club assured the Commission that they will fix every outstanding issue if only given thirty days to do so. The Commission indicated that any such continuance would likely be the last one.

Upon a motion duly made by Chairman Selevitch, and seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, it was VOTED to continue the application until the March meeting, with a temporary renewal of license to run concurrent to the continuance.

MISCELLANEOUS

<u>Board Discussion:</u> Board discussion of Mayor Arrigo's request of the License Commission to reduce license fees paid by veterans' clubs by 50%. Current license fee is \$1300 per year.

City Councillor Ira Novoselsky, who had proposed the motion in the City Council meeting, spoke in favor of the request. A representative from each of the city's three veterans' clubs spoke as well, describing a declining membership due to lack of enrollment among young veterans and an aging population of members.

Commissioner Guinasso moved to approve the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner LaCroix, but Chairman Selevitch proposed an amendment to the motion, which was to set the license fee for veterans' clubs at a flat rate of \$500 per year. The motion was carried unanimously as amended, setting the license fee to \$500.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Notification from Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) of its approval of the application of H & R Partners, Inc. d/b/a **Valsos Table & Bar** for a new Malt/Wine Restaurant license to be exercised at 139-141 Shirley Avenue.
- 2. Notification from Massachusetts ABCC of its approval of the application of Revere Restaurant Group, Inc. d/b/a **Tio Juan's Margarita's Mexican Restaurant** for a change of manager.

All communications were accepted and placed on file.

LICENSE RENEWALS

Common Victualler

La Metapaneca Grill, Inc., 63B Revere Beach Boulevard Café Montecristo, Inc. d/b/a Montecristo Mexican Grill, 364 Broadway Speedway, LLC d/b/a Speedway (#2409), 630 Squire Road Speedway, LLC d/b/a Speedway (#2479), 41 Lee Burbank Highway

Entertainment

Café Montecristo, Inc. d/b/a Montecristo Mexican Grill, 364 Broadway

All Alcohol Restaurant

Off The Boat, Inc. d/b/a D'Amelio's Off The Boat Restaurant, 304-306 Revere Street

All Alcohol Club

Revere Lodge Loyal Order of Moose #1272, 470 Broadway

Lodging House

CAPIC Real Estate, Inc., 72 Dehon Street

Class 2 Motor Vehicle Dealer

Exotic Auto Group, Inc., 212 Everett Street Charlie's Auto Exchange, Inc., 655 North Shore Road

It was unanimously VOTED to approve the above renewals, with the exception of the following license, which was renewed for thirty days, pending resolution of multiple issues: Revere Lodge Loyal Order of Moose #1272, 470 Broadway.

It was unanimously VOTED to schedule the next regular meeting on March 20, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Following the foregoing, there being no further business to come before the Board upon Motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Robert Selevitch, Chairman	Maggie Haney, Recording Secretary
Minutes of the meeting of February 20, 2019	