



MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION
September 12, 2017

1. Call to order

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Pro Tem Schmidt at 4:01 p.m. on September 12, 2017.

2. Present

Karen Schmidt, Lindsey Powell, Jack Bataoel Commissioners, George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Asst. Police Chief Ken Bays, and Renee Gooderham, Chief Deputy Clerk.

Commissioner Absent: Tari Renner.

3. Public Comment

Commissioner Schmidt opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. No individuals provided comments during the meeting.

4. Consideration of approving the Commission Minutes of August 8, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to approve the minutes of August 8, 2017.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

5. Consideration of approving the 2018 Meeting dates.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the 2018 Liquor Commission Meeting dates as presented.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

6. **Consideration of the request from Jonathon Kaiser and Ashley Cawood to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their November 5, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.**

Jonathon Kaiser, groom, addressed the Commission. He stated Red Bird Catering would cater the event. Beer and wine only would be served.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the request from Jonathon Kaiser and Ashley Cawood to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their November 5, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

7. **Consideration of the request from Andy Houin and Paige Steffen to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their November 11, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.**

Andy Houin, groom, addressed the Commission. He stated that Nelson's Catering would cater the event. Beer and wine only would be served.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell, to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the request from Andy Houin and Paige Steffen to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their November 11, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

- 8. Consideration of the request from Kyle Shadid and Cori Baker to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their March 17, 2018 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.**

Julie Shadid, mother of the groom, addressed the Commission. She stated that Famous Dave's would cater the event. Beer and wine only would be served.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the request from Kyle Shadid and Cori Baker to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their March 17, 2018 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

- 9. Consideration of the request from James Day and Karen Malek to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their October 21, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Davis Lodge.**

Karen Malek, bride, addressed the Commission. She stated that HyVee would cater the event. Beer and wine only would be served.

Motion by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Bataoel, to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the request from James Day and Karen Malek to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their October 21, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Davis Lodge.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

10. Consideration of the application of the Keg Grove Brewing Co., LLC, d/b/a Keg Grove Brewing Co., located at 712 E. Empire St., Ste. #2., requesting an TBPS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises and the sale of beer and wine only for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.

Jeffrey Mroz, owner/operator, addressed the Commission. He stated that Keg Grove Brewing Co., would produce small amounts of locally crafted beer. They were community focused and wanted to be an active part of the community. He noted that a meeting had been held with the neighborhood. They had agreed to conditions with the residents in order to maintain the privacy and integrity of the neighborhood. The establishment would not have video gaming. Only the beer which was produced at the location would be served. Food service would not be available. He stated same could come from food trucks or takeout. A fence would be installed between the two (2) buildings to improve privacy.

Commissioner Schmidt read an email from Alderman Buragas. She requested that business hours be Monday – Thursday closing at 9:30 p.m. weekend closing 10:30 p.m. and the patio closing thirty minutes (30) prior to closing. Mr. Mroz noted that the patio would be established at a later date.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned music on the patio. Michael Hoff, an owner/operator of the business, stated that a patio could be a future addition. There would be acoustic music inside the establishment. Same would be kept at a reasonable level and toned down to remain at an acceptable level to the surrounding areas.

Commissioner Powell questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training certifications. Mr. Mroz replied not at this time.

Commissioner Bataoel questioned possible smells being emitted from the establishment. Mr. Mroz stated that ventilation would not be outside. The filter system used would vent inside, condensing same into a vapor which would go down a drain.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if any persons wish to testify in favor of the application.

Eric Prenzler stated his family had owned the premises where the establishment would be located since 1963 and also owns the property at 1202 N. Linden Street. He noted that he had been working with Mr. Mroz and Mr. Hoff since early March, 2017. He believed they had a quality business plan.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned the lease. Mr. Prenzler stated that same was for five (5) years.

Mr. Bataoel questioned parking. Mr. Prenzler stated that there were 115 shared spaces. He believed there was plenty of parking as the business would be open later in the day than several of the other businesses at the location.

Erik Rankin noted that he was a personal friend of Mr. Mroz and a representative of South Bloomington on the McLean County Board. He was impressed with the changes the owners were making to the facility to make it friendly to the neighborhood.

Joe Gibson stated he resides at 5 White Place, directly behind the proposed brewery. He stated that he would rather have a viable business in the location, like the brewery, than have the space remain vacant.

Commissioner Schmidt noted that Katie Simpson, City Planner, sent an email stating there were no zoning concerns.

Commissioner Schmidt asked whether there were any persons wishing to testify in opposition to the application.

Carolyn Jarvis stated that White Place was more than an existing neighborhood; it was a historic, unique street. She stated her appreciation for the specific restrictions stated. She questioned the neighborhood impact with food trucks engines running and trash. She questioned the outdoor cooler, noise and ascetics. She suggested speed bumps in the alley and “No Thru” traffic signs to assist with traffic.

Kathryn Mueninghoff stated that she resides at 7 White Place. Her home backs up to the proposed brewery. She presented pictures of the area which were marked as Group Exhibit A. She opposes the brewery due to personal experience with a family member’s alcoholism. She believed there would be increased problems with vehicle and foot traffic, noise and trash. She recommended a sign posted in the alley “Children at Play” and speed bumps. She questioned the mix with the alley and Constitution Trail. She recommended security cameras on the outside of the building. She questioned the brewery’s location relative to a church.

Mr. Boyle noted that the location restrictions for a liquor license were if same was within 100’ of any church at the nearest part for worship.

Keith Brotheridge stated that he had some of the same concerns as the others who had spoken against the application. He questioned individuals stopping for a drink from Constitution Trail; noting that the trail was to be closed after dark. He believed the establishment would lower property values. He stated that it would not be in the best interest of a community to have a brew club in this portion of Bloomington (designated by the 61701 zip code) for social economic reasons.

Angela Haff stated that these types of breweries were popular with college students. She believed there would be an increase in criminal activity if the application was allowed. She questioned the owner/operators meaning of a community-focused business and noted that just saying it does not make it so.

Robert Mueninghoff believed that a bar in a family neighborhood was not in the best interest of the community.

Marty Seigel questioned if a market study had been done for this business. She questioned brewing times and employees coming and going at odd hours.

Mr. Mroz thanked everyone who spoke. He addressed security, stating that there would be security cameras on the premises, as the Alcohol Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) required same. There was an exterior cooler that would be completely blocked from the neighborhood with a fence and would produce less noise than an air conditioner.

Mr. Hoff stated that the required BASSETT training would provide the tools to know when the appropriate amount of alcohol had been served to college students or others. All beer would be produced during the daytime. There were only two (2) employees, himself and Mr. Mroz.

Commissioner Schmidt acknowledged the emails received from citizens as part of the record. She questioned police patrols. Asst. Chief Bays stated that they would respond when called.

Commissioner Bataoel questioned ensuring the church was outside the 100' limit. Mr. Boyle stated that any recommendation received could be contingent upon the location of the establishment being at least 100 feet from a church. Commissioner Schmidt stated that in any case it would be unlawful for the establishment to be given a license if it were within 100 feet of a church.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the application of the Keg Grove Brewing Co., LLC, d/b/a Keg Grove Brewing Co., located at 712 E. Empire St., Ste. #2., requesting a TBPS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer only by the glass for consumption on the premises and the sale of beer in packaged form for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week be approved, contingent upon compliance with all health and safety codes and with the following conditions incorporated into and made a part of the liquor license: 1.) no patio or outdoor alcohol service; 2.) no wine will be served and/or sold; 3.) no other beer will be served and/or sold except that which is produced on premise; 4.) no video gaming; 5.) installation of a fence to separate the business from the residential area; 6.) placement of security cameras on the outside of the building facing the residential area; 7.) installation of outside cigarette receptacles; and 8.) hours of operation will be Sunday – 12:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., Wednesday through Friday – 3:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. and Saturday – 11:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that this item would be recommended to Council at the October 9, 2017 Council meeting.

The following was presented:

11. Consideration of the application of Grand Cafe, LLC d/b/a Grand Cafe located at 2205 E. Oakland Ave., Ste. A1 and A2 requesting an RBS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Jamie Mapugzy, owner/operator, addressed the Commission. He noted that this was the second (2nd) location for the Grand Café. The business would have a full kitchen, the hours of operation were 11:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday 11:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training certifications. Mr. Mapugzy stated that he was working on same.

Mr. Boyle noted that the McLean County Health Department had sent an email citing concerns with freezer storage. He informed Mr. Mapugzy that same would be required to be resolved.

Commissioner Schmidt opened up the meeting to hear testimony in favor/opposition of the application. No one came forward.

Motion by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to recommend at the October 9, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the application of Grand Cafe, LLC d/b/a Grand Cafe located at 2205 E. Oakland Ave., Ste. A1 and A2 requesting an RBS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powell, Bataoel and Schmidt.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

12. Consideration of the application of Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary for a Limited Alcoholic Liquor License, Class LB, which would allow the selling and serving of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises for a fund raiser to be held

on October 15, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Union Park Clubhouse 1750 General Electric Rd.

Commissioner Powell recused herself 5:25 pm to 5:28 pm.

Miles Bardell, representative for the Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary addressed the Commission. This was an Oktoberfest event. A 5k run would be held on Constitution Trail. Brats, chips cookies and bananas would be served after the run. An accordion player would provide the music.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt to recommend at the September 28, 2017 City Council meeting approval of application of Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary for a Limited Alcoholic Liquor License, Class LB, which would allow the selling and serving of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises for a fund raiser to be held on October 15, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Union Park Clubhouse 1750 General Electric Rd.

Commissioner Schmidt directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Bataoel and Schmidt.

Recused: Commissioner Powell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

- 13. Notification of Officer change for American Drug Stores, LLC, d/b/a Osco Drug #3116, located at 2201 E. Oakland Ave., currently holding a PAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.**

George Boyle, Corporation Counsel, noted that the Illinois Liquor Commission required that all change of officer changes be presented to the local Liquor Commission for notification purposes only.

The following was presented:

- 14. Notification of Officer change for American Drug Stores, LLC, d/b/a Osco Drug #3775, located at 2103 N. Veterans Pkwy., currently holding a PAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.**

George Boyle, Corporation Counsel, noted that the Illinois Liquor Commission required that all change of officer changes be presented to the local Liquor Commission for notification purposes only.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to adjourn. Time: 5:30 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Gooderham, R.M.C.
Chief Deputy Clerk