MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION MEETING
June 12, 2018; 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Commissioners Tari Renner, Lindsey Powell, Jack Bataoel. Staff present: Greg Moredock, Counsel, Sorling Northrup, Asst. Police Greg Scott, and Cherry Lawson, City Clerk.

3. Public Comment.

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive public comment. There was no public comment offered.

4. Consideration of approving the Commission minutes of May 8 and May 17, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel seconded by Commissioner Powell to table the minutes of the May 8 and May 17, 2018 to the July 2018 Liquor Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

5. Consideration of the request from Joel Eagles and Rachel Gladden to allow moderate consumption of beer and wine at their July 14, 2018 wedding reception at Davis Lodge.

Rachel Gladden, bride appeared before the Commission stating Budget Liquors in Normal was catering the beer and wine for the reception and expecting up to 90 person attending the reception.

Commissioner Renner asked for a motion on this item.

Motion by Commissioner Powell seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for June 25, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

6. Consideration of the request from Bloomington Cycle Race Team for the Annual Criterium Bike Race on Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in downtown Bloomington requesting suspension of portions of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code pertaining to possession of open alcohol in public on the date of the event for specified areas of downtown Bloomington associated with the event.

Catherine Dunlap, Outreach and Events Coordinator, Downtown Development Division and member of the Criterium Bike Race Planning Committee appeared before the Commission stating the event is starting an hour earlier to accommodate a wedding reception that is occurring at Reality on Monroe. The event will end an hour earlier than it did last year.

Motion by Commissioner Powell seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for June 25, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

7. Consideration of the request from Bloomington Edge for the Bloomington Edge Music Festival and Block Party on Saturday, July 7, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in downtown Bloomington requesting suspension of portions of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code pertaining to possession of open alcohol in public on the date of the event for specified areas of downtown Bloomington associated with the event.

Charles Welde, General Manager, Bloomington Edge appeared before the Commission stating the event is their season opener. On July the 7th, the games start at 5:00 pm, that they planned events in an effort to increase attendance before and during the games in the downtown. They have submitted a request to have Front Street closed between Madison and Lee for a block party.

The block party would include a hamburger cook-off and a singing competition similar to American Idol where people pay to sing. The proceeds benefit the Friends of the Autism Place and

the finalists get to sing at our game that evening. They would be working with the Arena to sell alcohol with their secondary license at the block party.

Commissioner Powell asked where the alcohol would be served. Mr. Welde stated it would be on the sidewalk of the Arena on Front Street that only beer would be sold under a 40x40 tent contained to that area. For the concert, the concert would be in the Butler Lot so we would have snow fence to cordon off the whole concert area, single point of entry, and then the beer would be inside that area if we have it. They are in conversation with the Art Center seeking volunteers who are trained in Basset to check ID's. However, it that is not possible, its volunteers would go through Basset training in order to check ID's and wristbands. They are hiring three to four private security guards from Pure, and have secured porta potties and trash cans for the event.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for June 25, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing and consideration of the request from Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary for an LB liquor license for the Brats & Bags on Friday, August 3, 2018 p.m. from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in downtown Bloomington and consideration of the request of suspension of portions of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code pertaining to possession of open alcohol in public on the date of the event for specified areas of downtown Bloomington associated with the event.

[Minutes:] Commissioner Powell recused herself due to being a member of the Bloomington-Normal Sunrise Rotary.

Miles Bardell, B-N Sunrise Rotary appeared before the Commission stating They have hosted the Brats & Bags event for a number of years over the lunch hour. There is a brat lunch, no alcohol included during that part of the event. Later in the day, they would set up the bean bag toss bags which then that part of the event starts at 5:00 p.m., and have a beer truck there. From 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. beer would be sold and served, and would have ID's checked and patrons wearing wristbands in order to be served.

Commissioner Renner asked who would be providing the liquor license for the event. Mr. Bardell replied stating this year is different than in years past as they are requesting a special event permit and an LB license. They have a number of members of the Rotary Club who have gone through the BASSET training, and will be checking IDs and doing the security for the event. This is how they have done it for the last few years and it has worked out well.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel seconded by Commissioner Renner to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for July 9, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Bataoel.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

9. Notification of change of officers for Mac's Convenience Stores, LLC, d/b/a Circle K # 129, 1903 W. Market Street, Circle K # 1210, 1210 Market Street and Circle K # 1211, 515 S. Clinton Street and Circle K # 1251, 2302 Market Street.

Commissioner Renner directed the City Clerk to notify the Illinois State Liquor Commission of the change of officers for Mac's Convenience Stores, LLC.

10. Public Hearing and consideration of the application of Godfrey L. Miller Lodge #1776 Inc., located at 505 N. Prairie, requesting a CAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for the consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Commissioner Renner requested this item be tabled until the July 10, 2018 Liquor Commission Meeting, and will conduct a public hearing on this matter at that time.

11. Public Hearing and consideration of the application of Meet Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Hot Spot Grocery & Liquor, located at 1102 N. Hershey Road, requesting a PAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.

Shivabhui Patel, new owner Hot Spot Grocery appeared before the Commission and provided testimony stating he has had experience in the past operating this type of establishment as well as having a current liquor establishment. He is one of the proprietors of the market and it is under a corporation with stockholders.

Commissioner Bataoel ask how is the request different from what is being sold currently.

Commissioner Renner asked the Mr. Patel if he was currently selling alcohol at this point. Mr. Patel stated his corporation does currently sell at its location in Marseilles, Illinois. It is across from Thorton's Gas Station. However, he does not sell gas at that location, and does not currently have alcohol in that store. But, have sold alcohol in the past

Mr. Patel stated right now the business does sell beer and liquor at the location with the previous owner. This is a new application to take over the current business of which he intends to

continue operating the business in its current state; however, will look to make some improvements at a later date. Commissioner Renner expressed concern over the location of the market with the impacts on the immediate neighboring community. He asked whether the current owner sell single serve beverage. Mr. Patel stated he does.

Commissioner Renner stated there has been some issues in that area and ask Assistant Police Chief (ACP) Greg Scott to address some of those concerns. ACP Scott stated it has over time been an area that has been a higher crime rate. There has been less of a problem more recently with that particular establishment when it stopped selling gas which resulted in reduced traffic in that area. The traffic comes from the local apartment building that adjoins it just northeast of the store.

Commissioner Powell asked whether there had been incidents at the gas station as far as having to come there for anything or is it just basically the apartments that are behind the gas station. ACP Scott stated there has been calls in the past, but not recently. A couple years ago, there was a shooting in that area. No underage selling of alcohol either.

Commissioner Renner stated one of the other issues in the area that is to not sell alcohol within 200 feet. One hundred, 100 feet of daycare. There is a daycare kind of across the street from you as well.

Mr. Patel stated he would be managing the store as he is the owner. The plans to keep the same employees and has had Basset training. Commissioner Bataoel expressed concern over the children in the area especially those across the street at the YWCA.

ACP Scott stated Thornton's probably has a larger impact on the neighborhood because they cause more road traffic, they have more people stopping in to get gas, so as they're stopping in to get gas then they can pick up liquor, cigarettes, or other things. The motoring traffic would be greater at Thornton's than it would be at the other store because they have taken out their gas pumps. They do not sell gas there so that reduces the amount of roadway traffic in there; foot traffic from the local area northeast side of the roadway.

Mr. Patel stated they have bought the property already where this liquor store is. They plan to improve the parking lot. There is one spot that is still open in that shopping strip whereby a laundromat there may be placed there. JJ Fish & Chicken is located in that strip area as well.

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive comments from the public.

Alderman Joni Painter spoke in in opposition to this item. This is in her Ward and she has received calls from some who live in the apartment behind the store. Thornton's does sell packaged liquor in the area. The area does not need to an influx of liquor stores because liquor and crime are a bad mix. It is a high crime area there. She is not in favor of this license.

Ajeet Singh, current owner of plaza, does not work there his staff does. His current staff will continue to work there after the sale. Liquor is kept behind the counter and grocery is on the shelves. He has plans to install cameras in the rear. He expressed that he has never had any

incidents in the store, and they have never received a ticket from the City or state, and have never sold to under-aged individuals.

Commissioner Bataoel asked what the percentage of liquor and beer sold versus groceries. Mr. Ajeet stated Hot Spot sells around 10% to 15% in liquor, around 10% beer, rest is grocery. Since improving that store adding 10 walk-in coolers on the site, so our drink and grocery sale went up. Their focus is not on beer, liquor, and wine. Rather the focus is grocery, liquor is secondary.

Commissioner Renner stated underage sales is not the issue; it is a broader impact on the neighborhood, on the community. Commissioner Bataoel stated in his opinion, this is not a good spot for it. Commissioner Powell stated it is unfortunate that the area has changed. She is uncomfortable with not approving a liquor license for a business that has not experienced any recent issues.

Commissioner Renner stated as Liquor Commissioner and Mayor with a divided Liquor Commission could not in good conscious bring this to the City Council for approval under the circumstances with concerns with its impact on the community moving forward.

12. Public Hearing and consideration of the application of McLean County Fair Association located at 2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington requesting a LB (Limited Beer and Wine only) liquor license at the McLean County Fairgrounds and Interstate Center located at 1106 Interstate Drive on August 1-4, 2018 during the McLean County Fair, which would allow the sale of beer and wine by the glass for consumption during the event.

Michael Schwartz, McLean County Fair Manager appeared before the Commission stating this is the Fairground second year requesting a limited beer and wine liquor license. The dates of the Fair will be August 1-4, 2018. They are looking to extend hours on Saturday as the have a couple of company picnics who would like to utilize the aspect of beer sales, and is strictly beer sales for those four days. Beer and wine sales will be conducted in the grandstand area that is completely fenced in.

Motion by Commissioner Powell seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for July 9, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

13. Public Hearing and consideration of an application for approval of a change of ownership of Engle Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Winners Lounge, located at 801 S. Main Street, requesting a TAPS Class liquor license (Tavern, All Types of Alcohol, Packaged, Sunday Sales) which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week and packaged sales for consumption off-premises.

Attorney B. McLean Arnold (Mack) appeared before the Commission on behalf of his client Winners Lounge of Bloomington Inc. Dave Engle was the 100% owner of Winners Lounge of Bloomington Inc., and he passed. His two sons are inheriting what Mr. Engle the corporation. Brad Engle is here and he is operating the business. Ryan Engle, the other 50% owner is in the Air Force in Ohio, is allowing his brother to operate the business.

They considered having a new corporation called Engle Enterprises take over the business. However, the state because they have video games there, the state didn't want us to change the LLC. He spoke with Counselor Boyle to notify him of the death, and he also suggested that they keep it Winners of Bloomington Inc. This is a change of ownership to an existing liquor license holder. Those who are employed with Winners is BASSET trained. The directors and officers are Brad and Ryan as you might imagine, and any time there's a change of ownership greater than five (5%) percent.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for July 9, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

14. Public Hearing and consideration of an application for approval of a change the ownership of Old English Inn Ltd., d/b/a Windjammer Lounge, located at 2303 Stern Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701 requesting a TAPS Class liquor license (Tavern, All Types of Alcohol, Packaged, Sunday Sales) which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week and packaged sales for consumption off-premises.

Bryan Coombs, Owner and 100% shareholder of Windjammer appeared before the Commission stating the business model would remain the same as his mother-in-law had it before she passed, with the exception of change of ownership. All employees have been BASSET trained.

Motion by Commissioner Powell seconded by Commissioner Bataoel to approve the item to be placed on the Council Meeting Agenda for July 9, 2018 for Council's consideration.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

15. Public Hearing and consideration on the request by Green Top Grocery Cooperative, d/b/a Green Top Grocery, located at 921 E. Washington Street, that the City create a new liquor license classification that would allow the retail sale of packaged beer and wine for consumption on or off the premises.

[Minutes:] Commissioner Bataoel recused himself as he is a shareholder in this business.

Tim Sullivan, Interim General Manager for Green Top Grocery appeared before the Commission explaining the nature of its request. They would like to be able sell a customer a bottle of alcohol or beer during a cooking demonstration and have the customer consume the prepared food and alcoholic beverage on site in a designated area within the marketplace. They will not serve tap beer, nor will the grocery staff open wine bottles for customers.

Commissioner Renner stated that he and Counselor Boyle had a discussion about this type of request as the City does not currently have a classification for this type of license. Mr. Moredock stated, this would be a new classification that the City would need to create.

Commissioner Powell asked whether it is the intent to allow individuals to not only purchase food in the store, but to consume the alcoholic beverage in that designated section of the store. Mr. Sullivan stated there are three designated areas within the store where customers could consume alcohol.

Commissioner Renner asked whether the classification for request is just for the purpose of cooking demonstrations. Mr. Sullivan stated it would be to allow anyone at any time a purchase is made to consume the beverage in one of the designated areas.

Mr. Moredock stated this classification would have lettering that match the City Code, and an ordinance would need to come forward with the amendments to the liquor code. As this item moves forward, the City would need some guidance as to exactly what Green Top would be doing and guidance from the Commission with the responsibility of the insurance of how the premises will be defined. Essentially, the Commission would direct the Legal Department to draft an ordinance that would create a classification within the Liquor Code, it would then need to be approved. Green Top could apply for the new classification after approval of the creation of that particular license.

Motion by Commissioner Powell seconded by Commissioner Renner to direct staff to create a language for new classification to the City Code designating areas on or off premises of businesses for consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Renner and Powell

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

16. Continued Sanctions Hearing on the Complaint and Citation of CJ's Catering Inc. d/b/a CJ's Restaurant, located at 2901 E. Empire Street.

Commissioner Renner stated there is no one here from CJ's Catering. Commissioner Bataoel whether the Commission will just continue this matter until someone comes forward as the license has been suspended, but not revoked. At some point the Commission will need to revoke the license.

Commissioner Renner stated CJ's still owes the City money, and can use legal means to collect monies owed.

17. Adjournment.

Motioned by Commissioner Powell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Renner. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

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Cherry Lawson, City Clerk

MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION MEETING
September 11, 2018; 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Commissioners Tari Renner, Lindsey Powell, Jim Jordan. Staff present: George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; Asst. Police Chief Greg Scott, Special Events Coordinator Catherine Dunlap, Community Development Director Bob Mahrt, and Ashley Lara, Legislative Assistant.

3. Public Comment.

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive public comment. There was no public comment offered.

4. Consideration of approving the Commission minutes of July 10, 2018, and June 12, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Renner to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2018 and June 12, 2018 Liquor Commission Meetings.

Motion carried viva voce.

Mayor Renner announced Commissioner Jack Bataoel retired on September 10, 2018.

5. Consideration of the request from Don Badgerow and Kelsie Howerton to allow moderate consumption of beer and wine at their October 6, 2018 wedding reception at Davis Lodge.

Kelsie Howerton, the prospective bride, stated that Tony Roma's would be catering the event and serving beer and wine during the reception that there will not be any hard liquor served.

Mr. Boyle asked what the hours would be for the Suspension of the Ordinance and Ms. Howerton replied the reception will be from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and it would probably need to be suspended from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Commissioner Renner stated that he would send this item forward to the City Council with a positive recommendation for its consideration.

Motion by Commissioner Powell and Commissioner Jordan to approve the request from Don Badgerow and Kelsie Howerton to allow moderate consumption of beer and wine at their October 6, 2018 wedding reception at Davis Lodge.