



MINUTES
LIQUOR COMMISSION - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024, 4:00 PM

The Liquor Commission convened in regular session at 4:00 PM, May 14, 2024. Commissioner Meister called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Lindsey Meister	Commissioner	Present
Mboka Mwilambwe	Commissioner	Absent

Staff Advisors

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Amanda Stutsman	Deputy City Clerk	Present
George Boyle	Asst. Corporation Counsel	Present
Chris McAllister	Building Official	Present
Paul Williams	Asst. Police Chief	Present

Public Comment

No Public Comment was received.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

Commissioner Meister approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action on Approving the Minutes of the April 9, 2024, Regular Liquor Commission Meeting. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Regular Agenda

All license creations, amendments, or transfers are contingent upon compliance with all building, health, and safety codes.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from Times Past 2.0, LLC, d/b/a Times Past Inn, located at 1216 Towanda Ave., Requesting the Approval of a Change in Ownership and the Creation of a Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

Commissioner Meister opened the Public Hearing at 4:01 p.m.

Matt Streenz, President of Times Past 2.0 LLC, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. Mr. Streenz notified the Commission that he had been doing business in the community for 20 years. He noted that Times Past Inn was a staple in the community for almost four decades.

Commissioner Meister asked if there would be any changes to the operation of the business. Mr. Streenz answered no.

Commissioner Meister asked if the hours of operation would remain the same. Mr. Streenz said he would like to eventually bring back dinner, but the hours and staff would remain the same.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, asked if the applicant purchased stock in Keldon, Inc. or if only physical assets were acquired. Mr. Streenz explained it was a physical asset purchase. Mr. Boyle stated that the Item was a creation of a license and not a change in ownership, based on the City of Bloomington's Ordinance. Mr. Boyle asked Mr. Streenz about his connection to the establishment. Mr. Streenz explained that he was familiar with the current owner, Jeffrey Patterson, but he had never worked at the establishment. Mr. Boyle asked if there would be any major changes to operations or staff. Mr. Streenz answered no.

Commissioner Meister asked Mr. Boyle to confirm that this Item was a creation of a license. Mr. Boyle stated that based on the City's definition of a change in ownership, the Item would not qualify.

Staff had no additional questions.

Commissioner Meister asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Meister closed the Public Hearing at 4:06 p.m.

Commissioner Meister positively recommended the Item to Council as presented.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from MIA Global Ventures, LLC, d/b/a Fusion Crunch, located at 616 N. Main St., Requesting Approval of the Creation of a Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) liquor license.

Commissioner Meister opened the Public Hearing at 4:07 p.m.

Jeremy Cruthis, Senior Management of MIA Global LLC, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. Mr. Cruthis noted that an application for alcohol was made because, in reviews of the establishment, guests requested alcohol to be an option with their meal.

Commissioner Meister asked what the current hours of operation were. Mr. Cruthis answered that the establishment was open every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mr. Cruthis said in their application they requested a closing time of 1 a.m., but they usually close between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Commissioner Meister asked about capacity. Mr. Cruthis stated they have seating for 36 people.

Commissioner Meister asked if any employees serving liquor would be BASSET certified. Mr. Cruthis said there are a total of 6 employees and 4 of them were BASSET certified. He noted that 2 of them were part-time employees.

Commissioner Meister asked if Mr. Cruthis had a liquor license before or had experience serving alcohol. Mr. Cruthis noted that his organization runs the Hotel Chateau and Conference. He explained that he was familiar with the liquor license process.

Mr. Boyle asked how long the establishment had been open. Mr. Cruthis said they opened in April 2023. Mr. Boyle clarified that the application was for all types of alcohol. Mr. Cruthis confirmed.

Paul Williams, Asst. Police Chief, explained the Police Department had concerns about alcohol sales ceasing at 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday despite the establishment being closed at 9 p.m. or 10 p.m. Mr. Williams expressed worry about additional alcohol activity in that area of downtown. He requested that the establishment stop serving alcohol at midnight or 1 a.m. to alleviate activity that might cause the need for additional police interaction.

Commissioner Meister confirmed with Mr. Cruthis that currently the establishment closed at 9 p.m. or 10 p.m. and that they were not serving alcohol until 2 a.m. Mr. Cruthis explained that they hoped to have late-night service for their food menu, which is why they asked for extended hours until 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. Mr. Cruthis noted that the restaurant was small, and they did not intend to open a nightclub on the premises.

Mr. Boyle explained that in order to address the Police Department's concerns about the late-night sale of alcohol downtown, the license could have a condition stating a fixed time for selling alcohol and that after a certain time frame, the applicant could request a modification of the license to extend the closing time for selling alcohol.

Commissioner Meister confirmed the closing time would change from 2 a.m. to 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. Mr. Cruthis agreed. Mr. Williams confirmed that on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday that the closing time will be midnight, and on Friday and Saturday the closing time will be 1 a.m. Mr. Cruthis agreed to that and said in the future if they wanted to stay open later for late-night food service they would re-address that issue.

Commissioner Meister asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the Item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Meister closed the Public Hearing closed at 4:13 p.m.

Commissioner Meister positively recommended the Item to Council with the condition that alcohol sales would cease at 1 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

New Business

Mr. Boyle announced the resolution of a complaint related to a Police Department bi-monthly compliance check in March 2024. A failure was reported for Mac Convenience Stores d/b/a Circle K, located at 2412 S. Main St., regarding underage sale to a minor. He reported that the business settled by paying a fine of \$600 to the City of Bloomington and noted there no be no further action on the complaint.

Adjournment

Commissioner Meister adjourned the meeting.

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Lindsey Meister

Lindsey Meister, Commissioner

Amanda Stutsman

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

