



**Minutes
Liquor Commission - Regular Session
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 - 4:00 PM**

The Liquor Commission convened in regular session in the Government Center Boardroom at 4:00 PM. Commissioner Brady called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Lindsey Meister	Commissioner	Absent
Dan Brady	Commissioner	Present
Sreenivas Poondru	Commissioner	Present
Michael Jordan	Commissioner	Present
Cleotha Peterson	Commissioner	Present
Roger Bedeker	Commissioner	Absent

Staff Advisors

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Leslie Yocum	City Clerk	Present
George Boyle	Asst. Corporation Counsel	Present
Chris McAllister	Building Official	Present
Paul Williams	Asst. Police Chief	Present
Ashley Lara	Records & Licensing Specialist	Present
Taylor Kern	Downtown Development Specialist	Absent

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 are listed and voted on separately.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Seconded by Commissioner Poondru, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Continued Consideration and Action on Approving the October 14, 2025, Regular Liquor Commission Meeting Minutes. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Commissioner Brady directed the Clerk to call the roll:

AYES: Brady; Poondru; Jordan; Peterson

Motion carried.

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 Sodexo America, LLC, located at 104 E. University Ave., Requesting Approval of the Creation of a Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License. (Recommended Motion: The Public Hearing proceeds to determine whether the Application meets liquor licensure requirements.)

Commissioner Brady opened the Public Hearing at 4:02 PM.

James Webster, Attorney, and Tripper Phipps, Manager for Sodexo America, LLC (Applicant), after being sworn, addressed the Commission. Mr. Webster explained that they were seeking a restaurant and Sunday sales liquor license for the second floor of the Memorial Center at Wesleyan University. He stated that the new license, which would replace their former catering license, was not intended for full-time use and would mainly be utilized for meetings, conferences, alumni events, donor gatherings, and similar functions. He noted that spirits would not be used for students events. He explained that while wine, beer, and spirits would be allowed, spirits would be served less frequently than wine or beer and would be used mostly on special occasions.

Commissioner Brady asked Mr. Phipps to provide details on the history of the location. Mr. Phipps explained that the Memorial Center served as a gathering space at Illinois Wesleyan University and featured event areas such as the Young Main Lounge and Joslyn Atrium. He noted that while they had a beer and wine license for the Hanson Center, alcohol was only served there during certain hours and special events, particularly those that involved alumni and athletics. He explained that when the City modified their catering license (in 2023/2024) and with guidance from the University's new president, they looked to serve spirits in addition to beer and wine, for fundraising, donor, and alumni events held at the Memorial Center.

Commissioner Poondru asked if everyone serving alcohol would be BASSET Certified. Mr. Phipps answered yes. Commissioner Poondru then asked if they planned to serve in any other locations, or if it would only be the proposed premise. Mr. Phipps stated that they would only serve in the proposed space.

Commissioner Jordan asked for clarification on the catering license mentioned earlier. Mr. Phipps explained that the City removed their catering license, which had been secondary to their main license for the Hanson Center. He stated that after discussions with both Sodexo and Bloomington Legal about how their services should be classified, it was determined that instead of a special event license, they should apply for a full restaurant license similar to the one they held for the Hanson Center.

Staff had no concerns.

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

Commissioner Brady closed the Public Hearing at 4:09 PM.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to positively recommend the Item to Council.

Commissioner Brady directed the Clerk to call the roll:

AYES: Brady; Poondru; Jordan; Peterson

Motion carried.

The following Item was presented:

Item 5. B. First Appearance on a Citation Issued to Dublin Bay, Inc. d/b/a Killarney's, Located at 523 N. Main St., for Violation of Chapter 6, Section 27(b)(2) of the Bloomington City Code by Allowing 6 People Under the Age of 21 onto the Licensed Premises. (Recommended Motion: N/A)

Asst. Corporation Counsel George Boyle explained that the business had received a citation when Bloomington Police found six underage individuals on the premises during an enforcement effort on October 1, 2025. He explained that none of the individuals met the City's exceptions for being in a tavern, such as being with a guardian or employed there. He reported that it was the recent ownership's first violation, they had admitted to the offense, paid a \$1,500 fine, and no further action was needed.

Commissioner Jordan asked if the individuals had identification checked at the door. Mr. Boyle explained that the underage individuals admitted to entering Killarney's either by slipping past the bouncer or through other means without valid identification, and their statements during questioning were considered credible by authorities.

Commissioner Brady noted that the owner of the establishment had reached out to Bloomington Police to request training and support to better enforce age restrictions. He also acknowledged that advances in ID technology made it challenging to identify underage patrons using fake identification. Mr. Boyle agreed that the establishment had shown strong cooperation with Police and was taking proactive steps to prevent future violations, which included a camera system upgrade. He noted that although the security upgrade was not a formal part of the settlement, both the Police and the establishment planned to work together to help ensure that similar incidents did not happen again.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Peterson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Poondru, to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Brady directed the Clerk to call the roll:

AYES: Brady; Poondru; Jordan; Peterson

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

City of Bloomington

ATTEST



Dan Brady

Leslie Smith-Yocum

Dan Brady, Liquor Commissioner

Leslie Smith-Yocum, City Clerk