

**Queen Anne's County Liquor Board
Minutes of Meeting**

January 4, 2019

9:00 a.m.

The Board of License Commissioners of Queen Anne's County met on Friday, January 4, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. at 110 Vincit St., Centreville, MD. The date was changed since Tuesday, January 1st was a Holiday. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John T. McQueeney. Those present were: John T. McQueeney, Chairman; Gene M. Ransom, Esq., Vice-Chairman; Maurice D. Dashiell; Joyce E. Jones, Esq.; and Thomas E. Beery, Members; Jeffrey E. Thompson, Esq., Attorney for the Board; Cathy Maxwell, Clerk to the Board; and William J. Council, Liquor Inspector.

The Minutes from the December 4, 2018 Liquor Board meeting were approved as written.

The following Special/Temporary licenses were reviewed and approved:

Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center – Dates of events – January 24, February 21, March 21, and April 25.

Mr. Jonathan Cook from Blackwater Distilling appeared before the Board. He has a pending Class "D" tavern license. He had appeared before the Board at the November, 2018 meeting to discuss possibly changing from a Corporation to an LLC. He has now decided to remain as a Corporation. This was not an issue with the Board. Mr. Cook has been proceeding with construction and working with the State of Md. for the necessary licenses. He found that that he needs a portion of the Class "D" premises shown on his original drawing dedicated to his Md. State license. He submitted to the Board a new drawing showing a different outline which actually reduces the amount of Class "D" tavern space that was originally approved by the Board. Basically he is allocating a portion of the space that had been approved for the tavern to the State license for the Class "9" license. The State wants him to have a space to conduct tastings and separate from the Class "D" licensed space. So that space would not be allowed to have any drinks served under the Class "D" tavern license. It is a walled in room with doors so it should be very easy to police it. His estimate for completion of construction is three weeks. A motion was made by Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Ransom, to accept the revised drawing. All members voted in favor.

The Board reviewed an application for advertising a new Class "B" beer, wine & liquor license for Roger J. L'Heureux, for the benefit of SRR Holdings, LLC, trading as Smoke, Rattle and Roll, located at 422 Pennsylvania Ave., Centreville, MD 21617. Mr. L'Heureux and Mr. Joshua Shonts appeared before the Board. Mr. Shonts is the license holder for Smoke, Rattle and Roll at their Kent Island location. Mr. Thompson reviewed the submitted paperwork. He asked Mr. L'Heureux if he wanted to be licensed as an LLC or an individual. Mr. L'Heureux said they

formed a new LLC for the Centreville location. Mr. Thompson said the application should be in the name of the LLC. He said there cannot be two licenses in the same name. The Kent Island location is under a different LLC. Mr. Thompson said they need a resolution stating that Mr. L'Heureux is the authorized individual for the LLC. Also the lease needs to be amended. Mr. Thompson asked if Smoke, Rattle and Roll is a registered trade name. Mr. L'Heureux said, no, but they have filed for a trade name. Mr. Thompson said only one person can own a trade name and they are already using that name at the Kent Island location. Two different entities cannot claim the same trade name. Mr. Ransom said it is two different entities and whoever owns the trade name can rent it to another LLC. Mr. Thompson suggested that the Centreville location could be called, for example, Smoke, Rattle and Roll 2 which would be a different trade name. Otherwise, other businesses could come to the Board and ask why they can't have two licenses. Mr. Thompson said his main concern is if someone have a registered trade name in somebody's name, another company should not be allowed to use it. Mr. Ransom said he does not have a problem with other people wanting to open another business in the County and use the same name. He said Smoke, Rattle and Roll has never been a problem and they want to expand the business and the Board should figure out how to work with them. Mr. Thompson said the application, the lease, etc. should be consistent and it is not. He said the documentation needs to be consistent before advertising. This should be submitted to the Board's Clerk by next Friday. Mr. Ransom made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve this application for advertising. All members voted in favor.

The Board reviewed an application for advertising the transfer of a Class "D" beer, wine & liquor license from Robert Wilson to Ivano Scotto Di Perta, for the benefit of Dock Bar, LLC, trading as Red Eyes Dock Bar 20, located at 503 Kent Narrows Way North, Grasonville, MD 21638. Mr. Di Perta and Mr. Billy Gordon appeared before the Board. Mr. Thompson said the applicant will need to apply for a bulk transfer permit through the Comptroller's Office. He said they also need to submit a Lease Agreement. Mr. Di Perta said the business is concerned that if this license is transferred and then Mr. DI Perta were to leave, they are out of a liquor license and they won't be able to get one back. Mr. Di Perta has been managing Red Eyes since this past summer, around May. Mr. Thompson said along with a Lease Agreement, the Board also needs a drawing of the licensed premises showing one contiguous parcel, to be submitted to the Board's Clerk by next Friday. A motion was made by Mr. Ransom, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve this application for advertising. All members voted in favor.

Mr. Warren Wright, Drug Free Coalition, appeared before the Board. He said the last saturation patrol caught a lot more things than alcohol. So this year this will be turned over to the Sheriff's Dept. The final numbers for drug overdoses for Queen Anne's Co. were 122 overdoses and we know happened, probably more, and 16 deaths. Last year there were five deaths. Mr. Council asked how many of the overdoses were repeat offenders. Mr. Wright said for one it was the third time and for several it was the second time. There is a school program for drugs and alcohol that is starting to take off. There is also a three part program to assess those students that are vaping. Some vaping devices have nicotine and some do not. It is unknown how many vaping devices contain marijuana. So far this year they've caught 45 students and they have to go through a program. Ms. Jones said there are some on line classes for students

but not all students have access to the internet at home. Mr. Wright said for alcohol they have caught seven students with either possession or use since the beginning of the year at Queen Anne's High School. They are keeping track of each student caught so that they may receive an assessment and if they go to treatment are they following up with that treatment. On December 12th there was a project proposal presented to the Drug Free Coalition called Haunted Crack House which is scheduled to occur in October. One subject was that scare tactics do not work. Queen Anne's Goes Purple will be sometime in September. Drug Free Coalition is doing a post survey to identify ten things for the community to learn.

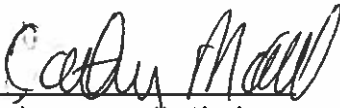
Mr. Council did 56 business checks for the month of December. He plans to start compliance checks and hopes to finish them by spring. He needs volunteers. Regarding the Santa-Con event that occurred in December, Mr. Council feels this event needs adjustments for the safety of the people and safety of the public. He did not charge anyone with violations this year. There was drinking on the buses. El Jefe had the best idea. When you got off the bus and you were drinking anything, even water, you threw it away before you went into the restaurant. The event was very successful. Before the event occurs next year, Mr. Council will talk to the businesses involved to avoid problems. Mr. Council inquired of the Board the difference between a "law" and a "rule". Mr. Ransom said in order to make a rule, the Board has to have authority under the statute to do so. The Board cannot make rules that expand the authority of the statute. Mr. Council can charge someone with violating a Board rule. Mr. Thompson said in the past the Board has advertised it when the Board plans to adopt rules. The Board made a noise regulation in the past. The State has noise regulations that everyone has to abide by. This Board's rule on noise was tied specifically to amplified music. Mr. Thompson said the statute says the County can make the law more restrictive, not less restrictive. Mr. Council said some businesses with an "A" license (package stores) seem to think that they can serve alcohol on the parking lot when it is not included on their premises map. He would like to require all holders of "A" licenses to update their premises map.

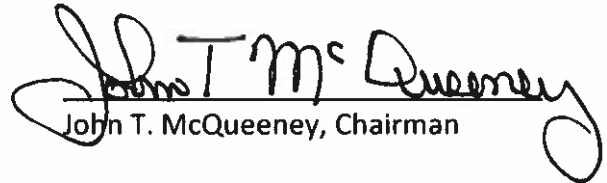
Mr. Mike Wisnosky, Director of Planning & Zoning, Ms. Vivian Swinson, Zoning Administrator, and Mrs. Helen Spinelli, Principal Planner, appeared before the Board to discuss the Action Letter that Mrs. Spinelli wrote to the County Commissioners regarding a public hearing for the proposed legislation for TIPS training and beauty/barber shops. The Commissioners' public hearing on this matter is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22 at 6:10 p.m. Mr. Wisnosky encouraged the Board members to attend the hearing to represent the legislation that they want approved. He said if the Board has any changes to the draft that Ms. Spinelli wrote, please let him know. Ms. Spinelli has not heard any comments from the public on the legislation. Ms. Jones made some suggested edits to the draft and Ms. Spinelli will follow up on these. Mr. Thompson said he will be attending the public hearing on January 22. He will present the legislation. Mr. Ransom said it may be better to break these two Bills into two separate memos. He said it would also be helpful to see a draft of the actual legislation before it is submitted to Annapolis.

Mr. McQueeney told Mr. Wisnosky that when Mr. Council starts doing compliance checks again he will need some funds. Mr. Wisnosky said Mr. McQueeney's letter regarding funds needed for the next fiscal year was programmed into the budget.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cathy Maxwell, Clerk


John T. McQueeney, Chairman