

**ALCOHOL BEVERAGE BOARD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024 @ 1:00 PM
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
CHESAPEAKE BUILDING
41770 BALDRIDGE STREET
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650
MINUTES**

The meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County was held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 1:00 PM in the County Commissioners Conference Room, Chesapeake Building, Leonardtown, Maryland.

Chairman David Willenborg called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Present:

Chairman David Willenborg
Vice-Chair Richard Watts
Member George Anas
Member Richard Shin
Member Barbara Hill
Tamara Hildebrand, Administrator
Chris Beaver, Attorney
Suzan Dean, Recording Secretary
Kevin Hall, Inspector
Dep. Steve Myers, Alcohol Enforcement Coordinator

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Willenborg reordered the agenda to accommodate the officer change and extension of conditional approvals for Water View Inn. Vice-Chair Watts moved to approve the agenda with changes for February 8, 2024, and was seconded by Member Shin. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – January 11, 2024

Member Shin moved to approve the minutes for January 11, 2024, and was seconded by Member Anas. Motion carried.

- **Officer/Member/Trade Name changes**

Lighthouse- Deleting George Arthur Curtis; adding Joshua Leslie Shaffer

Vice-Chair Watts made a motion to delete George Arthur Curtis and add Joshua Leslie Shaffer and was seconded by Member Hill. Motion carried.

Water View Inn - Deleting Yolanda Danette Butler; adding Phyllis Washington

Vice-Chair Watts made a motion to delete Yolanda Danette Butler and add Phyllis Washington and was seconded by Member Anas. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Extension of Conditional Approvals**

The Creek – Arthur C. Brinkley and Celeste C. Baird - Requesting 90-day extension of conditional approval of license application.

Arthur Brinkley and Celeste Baird appeared before the Board and were sworn in. Ms. Baird explained that they have continued to make improvements and are requesting another 90-days extension to continue this process. Vice-Chair Watts moved to approve the 90-day extension and was seconded by Member Shin. Motion carried.

Call Signs – Sahil Malhotra and Danielle Malhotra - Requesting 30-day extension of conditional approval of license application.

Sahil Malhotra and Danielle Malhotra appeared before the Board and were sworn in. Mr. Malhotra stated that his final inspection is on Monday, so he is requesting a 30-day extension. Member Shin moved to approve the 30-day extension and was seconded by Member Hill. Motion carried.

Water View Inn – Richard Dwayne Thomas, David Orlando Thomas, and Phyllis Washington - Requesting 90-day extension of conditional approval for extension of premises.

Richard Thomas and David Thomas appeared before the Board and were sworn in. There was a letter presented from Phyllis Washington allowing Mr.'s Thomas' to speak on her behalf. Mr. Richard Thomas explained that they are in the process of their final inspections and would like to request another 90-day extension. Vice-Chair Watts moved to approve the 90-day extension and was seconded by Member Anas. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Violations**

Murphy's Town and Country - Employee: Harpreet Singh - Harpreet Singh, was an employee of a license holder and sold or provided alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one years in violation of §6-304 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and §5.04(j) of the Rules and Regulations of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County.

Harpreet Singh appeared before the Board and was sworn in. Mr. Singh admitted that the violation did occur. Vice-Chair Watts made a motion for a \$50.00 fine and was seconded by Chairman Willenborg. The vote was 4:1 Member Shin against. Motion carried.

Licensee: Lilaben Patel - Sale of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) in violation of §6-304 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and §5.04(j) of the Rules and Regulations of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County.

Lilaben Patel appeared before the Board and was sworn in. Ms. Patel was accompanied by an interpreter (store manager) and their attorney, Mr. John Quinn. Ms. Patel admitted that the violation did occur. Member Shin made a motion for a \$1000.00 fine, \$750.00 held in abeyance and RAST training and was seconded by Member Anas. Motion carried.

- **Applications**

Paradise Bar and Lounge - Application for James H. Hill to purchase a Class D BWL license and t/a Paradise Bar and Lounge, (Paradise Bar and Lounge, LLC), 21367 Great Mills Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653.

James Hill appeared before the Board and was sworn in. Attorney John Quinn accompanied Mr. Hill. Chair Watts made a motion for a 90-day conditional approval pending a copy of the Trader's license, Use and Occupancy permit, Health Department and Fire Marshal inspection and was seconded by Member Hill. Motion carried.

BOARD ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- **Rules and Regs Review**

Legislation went up with (two bills) that the Board supported; the Non-Profit Theatre bill and the Spirit Tasting bill. Mrs. Hildebrand will draft language to go in the Rules and Regs in case these bills are passed and have Atty. Beaver review. Mrs. Hildebrand stated that she has been trying to implement more Real ID information into the RAST program, as they are seeing more counterfeits of the Real ID vs the older Maryland license. Mrs. Hildebrand explained that English second language can be very difficult for both licensees and the Board. Mrs. Hildebrand stated that she has had to use several methods to help licensees translate learning materials for the RAST training and the Rules & Regs.

ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

For the month of January, Deputy Myers reported:

- 18 Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance checks – 1 tobacco violation
- 14 DUI's- Sheriff
- 2 stationary surveillance - no violations
- No Alcohol Violation Summon served.
- 5 State Park surveillance - no violations
- Conducted RAST

BOARD INSPECTOR REPORT

For the month of January, Inspector Hall reported:

- 8 inspections
- Conducted RAST

BOARD MEMBERS TIME

Board members will discuss fines at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Hill made a motion to adjourn at 2:36 pm, seconded by Vice-Chair Watts. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzan Dean, Recording Secretary

David Willenborg, Chairman