

LIQUOR AND LICENSE COMMISSION
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road - Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008

Chairman Hammerand called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The following members were in attendance: John Hammerand; James P. Kennedy; Mary McCann; Yvonne M. Barnes; and Nick Provenzano. Also in attendance: Jamie Rein, Assistant State's Attorney; and Captain Tony Cundiff – Sheriff's Office.

John Hammerand, Chairman
Yvonne M. Barnes James P. Kennedy
Mary T. McCann Nick Provenzano

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms. Barnes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve the regular session minutes of April 9, 2008 Liquor and License Commission meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted with all members present voting aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

New and renewal liquor license, manager and/or amusement license requests: The Commission met with Mr. Davendra Patel and reviewed his application for a new Class B liquor license for the establishment known as the House of Bottles in Marengo, Illinois. Mr. Russo Giovanni, who is a McHenry County resident will be the liquor manager. It was noted that both individuals had been finger printed, but results have only been received for Mr. Russo. Mr. Patel will be leasing the establishment from Mr. Russo. Mr. Patel submitted payment for the liquor license along with the application fee requirement. Noting paperwork was completed, Ms. McCann made a motion, seconded by Mr. Provenzano, to approve a liquor license for the House of Bottles based on receipt of finger print results. Mr. Patel was informed that a liquor license would be granted if finger print results were returned with no record of criminal activity found.

Special One-Day Liquor License: The Commission met with Mr. Hernan F. Rivera a representative from Pueblos Unidos, Inc. who is applying for a "Class F" Special One-Day Liquor licenses for a rodeo event to be held at the McHenry County Fairgrounds on June 15, 2008. An agreement from the Fair Association to hold this event along with a security plan signed by the Sheriff was submitted along with the application form and proof of dram shop insurance for the event. The applicant stated that alcohol would be sold in a fenced-off area and provide a site plan of the event. The Commission noted that no more than three Class F liquor licenses can be issued to a any one organization during a licensing year (5/1 to 4/30). Members also raised concerns with the estimated number of people that will be attending this event. Mr. Rivera noted that this was discussed with the Sheriff's Department and additional security will be provided if necessary. Members also raised concern with the size of the proposed "beer garden." Mr. Rivera reviewed plans to provide fencing around the area with a second fence surrounding the area. It was also noted that finger print background checks on those selling alcohol at such events is not required. After discussion, Ms. McCann made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve a Class F one-day liquor license for Pueblos Unidos. Members questioned Mr. Rivera regarding the time for the event. Mr. Rivera responded that it is scheduled from 1 pm to 10pm. The rodeo ends about 7:30 p.m. and the final set of music would end at 8:30 p.m. with all attendees leaving the location by 10 p.m. Members asked that the motion include a requirement that the sale of alcohol end at 8:30 pm, which Mr. Rivera agreed to. Mr. Rivera was also directed to contact the Health Department regarding port-a-potty requirements for such a large event. Members also requested a list of all persons who would be serving alcohol at the event, Mr. Rivera will provide this information. Noting no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (McCann, Kennedy, Provenzano, Barnes and Hammerand).

Mr. Alfred Luna addressed the Commission and asked to be granted a liquor license for a event being held in Richmond this coming weekend. He stated he had an event permit and had contracted with the Sheriff's Department for security at the event. He is expecting 150 people. Members questioned Mr. Luna regarding his non-profit status. Mr. Luna could not provide documents indicating the establishment of a non-profit organization. The Commission reviewed requirements and forms that must be completed when applying for a Class F liquor license. They also reviewed violations that could be imposed should alcohol be sold without a properly approved liquor license. The Commission informed Mr. Luna of future meetings of the Liquor Commission and that the next schedule meeting is on June 11th at 9 am.

Raffle Permits: The Commission reviewed the following three Raffle License Applications: Hooved Animal Humane Society; McHenry County Latino Coalition; and, the Illinois Youth Dance Theatre. Noting that the forms and documents

were all completed and the necessary bond insurance were attached; Mr. Provenzano made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann, to approve the three raffle permits as submitted. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (McCann, Provenzano, Kennedy, Barnes and Hammerand).

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Sting Operations: Ms. Rein asked for direction on the fine for the Mobil Speed Mart located on Highpoint Road in McHenry, IL. An employee had sold alcohol to an underage person during two sting operations – the first event being conducted on December 13, 2007 and the second on December 27, 2007. The employee was Ramesu C. Barot on both occasions. His court case has been settled with the first case being dismissed and the second was a plea agreement. BASSET training was imposed as part of the plea agreement along with a fine. After a discussion, members directed Ms. Rein to impose the maximum fine for both events. If the fine was not agreeable to the owner a hearing would be scheduled for the meeting on June 11, 2008. Should the owner pay the fines no hearing will be held, but the members agreed that they would have him attend a future meeting to discuss their concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Barnes, with all members present voting aye.

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