

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

MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 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; and Yvonne M. Barnes. Nick Provenzano was absent. Also in attendance: Jamie Rein, Assistant State's Attorney; and Captain Tony Cundiff – Sheriff's Office; Court Reporter, Elizabeth L. Nenni; and Stephen Haugh, Hearing Officer.

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 June 11, 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:

Raffle Permits: The Commission reviewed the following four Raffle License Applications: Stateline Comets Youth Football; Police Benevolent & Protective Association; McHenry County Bar Association; Cary-Grove High School Booster Club; and the Wonder Lake Water Ski Show Team. Noting that the forms and documents were all completed and the necessary bond insurance were attached; Mr. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann, to approve the raffle permits as submitted. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (McCann, Kennedy, Barnes and Hammerand).

Members reviewed a July 1, 2008 letter sent from the Planning and Development Department to Margaret Carrasco which denied her request for a temporary use permit. The letter explained that the permit was denied due to incorrect liability insurance. Captain Cundiff also reported that in response to a noise complaint relative to a June 15, 2008 event an incident report was issued. The event being held at 5411 Route 12, Richmond Illinois was a Rodeo. The owner of the property stated this was a Father's Day celebration with a live band and rodeo. The owner stated that the Planning and Development Department had advised him that he did not need a permit if the event was for a special celebration. Captain Cundiff distributed the Incident Report for review by members.

Special One-Day Liquor License: None

Hearings: The Commission opened a liquor hearing for the establishment known as Joey B's located at 1625 Route 176, Crystal Lake, IL. Ms. Rein reported that the owner (Joseph Basile) had been properly served notice of the hearing on July 1, 2008. Mr. Basile was absent at today's hearing. Ms. Rein stated she has not been contacted by Mr. Basile and asked that the Commission proceed with the hearing. The hearing was properly recorded by Court Reporter, Elizabeth L. Nenni from Q & A Reporting.

The Commission entered executive session to discuss the hearing.

At 9:40 am the Liquor Commission returned to regular session. Mr. Hammerand made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to find the owner of Joey B's guilty of charges and impose a fine of \$1,000. After a discussion, the motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (McCann, Barnes, Kennedy and Hammerand).

The hearing concluded at 9:43 am.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Sting Operations: Ms. Rein's reported that the following seven establishments had received a notice of hearing for today: Old River's Inn, Washington Street Station, Horizontals, Chemung Country Store; Joe B's, Lizard Lounge, and Grand Old Mill. The attorney for Old River's Inn and the Washington Street Station has requested a continuance of the hearing to August 13. Horizontals, Chemung Country Store, Lizard Lounge and the Grand Old Mill have paid their fines and signed the affidavit waiving their right to appear and defend against the charges.

Mr. Collins, owner of China Gil Inc. (AKA, the Lizard Lounge), had come in to pay his fine and briefly addressed the Commission. He stated his regrets for the recent violation and noted he is requiring all his bar staff to become BASSET certified. Members thanked him for his input and encouraged him to contact the Sheriff when problems arise.

Liquor Ordinance – Proposed Amendments: At the request of Ms. Rein this item will be continued to the August 13th meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Kennedy stated he was concerned with the misrepresentation from the applicant for a Special Liquor License for three soccer events. Members also raised concern that the P & D Department was going to authorize an event license for a rodeo to be held on Sunday 7/13, at the same location that a soccer event was to be held. Ms. McCann noted that the Planning and Development Committee would be reviewing and discussing the temporary use permit process at their meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 17th. Members questioned what would be the consequences for liquor is available at the rodeo events without an authorized liquor license. After discussion, Captain Cundiff stated he would bring the concerns to his department and see if they could send an undercover officer to the event on Sunday 7/13.

Chairman Hammerand reported that the state also imposes fines for the sting operation violations and those fines are credited with the amount paid to the County. Members commented that the message is getting out that we will not tolerate violations to the liquor ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m. on a motion by Ms. McCann, seconded by Ms. Barnes, with all members present voting aye.

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