



NORTHAMPTON LICENSE COMMISSION

November 3, 2010

Minutes

*Commission Chairman Brad Shimel, Commissioner William Rosen,
Commissioner Stephanie Levin*

Chairman Shimel opened the meeting at 4:00 P.M. Commissioners Shimel, Levin and Rosen were present.

1. REVIEW OF LICENSE #090000065 WINE & MALT PACKAGE STORE

Smith Store, Inc. d/b/a The Village General Store
311 Riverside Drive, Florence, MA 01062

The Clerk explained that Ms. Rys called this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Her husband has had a fourth heart attack, and they could not attend this meeting. They would like to re-open, or to continue talks with two interested parties. One party would like to lease, the other possibly would buy the license. In order to keep the license active, the renewal fee must be paid by November 30. The Clerk asked Ms. Rys to come to the December 1, 2010 meeting, and the Clerk will call Ms. Rys on Thursday, November 4 with the Commission's decision.

Commissioner Shimel read into the record an email from one of the interested parties, encouraging the Commission to allow the licensee to renew the license.

Commissioner Rosen moved to allow the licensee to renew this license; Commissioner Levin seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

2. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM WINE & MALT LIQUOR LICENSE

Event: Pioneer Valley Ballet Nutcracker Reception
Date and Time of Event: Thursday, December 9, 2010, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Location: Academy of Music, 274 Main Street, Northampton
Servers' information has been provided√
Liquor Liability Insurance has been provided√
REQUEST FEE WAIVER

Debra J' Athony was present for the application. This is a private reception before dress rehearsal.

Commissioner Rosen moved approval, with fee waiver, of the license; Commissioner Levin seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

3. APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM WINE & MALT LIQUOR LICENSE

Event: Different Drummer's Kitchen Company Cooking Classes Serving Wine

Dates and Times of Event: Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 6:15 pm – 8:45 pm

Monday, November 15, 2010 at 6:15 pm – 8:45 pm

Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 6:15 pm – 8:45 pm

Location: 34 Bridge Street, Northampton

Servers' information has been provided✓

Liquor Liability Insurance is pending

Dennis Greco, manager, was present for the application. Profits would be donated to the Berkshire Humane Society. Mr. Greco brought the liquor liability insurance to the meeting.

Commissioner Levin moved approval of the license; Commissioner Shimel seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

4. APPLICATION FOR ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE

Haymarket Café Inc.

185 Main Street, Northampton

Description of Proposed Entertainment: Poetry readings, jazz, evenings downstairs

Peter Simpson was present for the application. The establishment is open until 10 p.m. on weeknights, 11:00 p.m. on weekends. The café setting would be maintained, with equipment provided by Downtown Sounds.

Commissioner Shimel moved approval of the license; Commissioner Levin seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

5. APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF MANAGER

Lhasa Café, Inc. d/b/a Lhasa Café

159 Main Street, Northampton

License # 090000110 Wine & Malt Restaurant

Proposed New Manager: Thondup Tsering

Application filed at License Commission office on October 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Thondup Tsering was present for the application. The previous manager has left, Mr. Tsering is the owner, and will also be the manager.

Commissioner Levin moved approval of the application; Commissioner Rosen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

6. APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSE, CHANGE OF MANAGER, NEW OFFICERS/DIRECTORS, NEW STOCKHOLDERS, AND TRANSFER OR ISSUANCE OF STOCK

Loft Hospitality Services, LLC

Atwood Drive, Northampton

Current Licensee: Oldway Leasing, Inc. d/b/a Clarion Hotel

License #090000001 Innholder, All Alcohol

Proposed New Manager: George W. Page, Jr.

Application filed at License Commission office on October 21, 2010 at 2:49 p.m.

Attorney Michael Gove, Attorney Tim Mulhern, and George Page were present for the application. Attorney Gove explained that all paperwork was filled out per the advice of William Kelly, General Counsel of the A.B.C.C. Mr. Page will take over the restaurant and banquet facilities at the Clarion Hotel. The application is for a Transfer of Interest, not a full transfer of license.

Commissioner Shimel moved approval of the application; Commissioner Rosen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

7. APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF MANAGER

1 Bridge Street, Inc. d/b/a Paradise City Tavern

1 Bridge Street, Northampton

License #090000003 All Alcohol Restaurant

Proposed New Manager: Dawn McBride

Application filed at License Commission office on October 27, 2010 at 1:25 p.m.

Dawn McBride and General Manager William Collins were present for the application. After several questions regarding Ms. McBride's experience, the Commission moved to continue the application to November 9, 2010.

8. REVIEW OF LICENSES FOR RENEWAL

License #090000041 Jamie Corporation d/b/a Silent Cal's Café, 196 Pleasant St, Northampton

License #090000099 Osaka Japanese, Inc., 7 Old South Street, Northampton

The Clerk explained that this transfer of license, approved April 7, 2010 by the License Commission, is still in process at the A.B.C.C. Both licensees must renew to keep the application active. The Clerk sent certified letters regarding renewals to the attorneys for both licensees.

License #090000065 Smith Store, Inc. d/b/a The Village General Store, 311 Riverside Drive, Florence – this item was addressed above.

License #090000022 Walko Management, Inc. d/b/a Northampton Country Club, Leeds

The Clerk was notified by the Tax Collector that this licensee is now in Tax Title for 2009. The Commission instructed the Clerk to request the opinion of the City Solicitor on this matter.

9. **NEW BUSINESS:** The Clerk received an application for a Short Term license after the publication of the agenda:

APPLICATION FOR SHORT TERM ALL ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR LICENSE

Event: Beit Ahava

Date and Time of Event:

Location:

Servers' information has been provided✓

Liquor Liability Insurance is pending

Attorney Donald Frank was present for the application. The first such event was held last year.

Commissioner Levin moved approval of the application; Commissioner Rosen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 6, 2010

Commissioner Levin moved approval of the minutes; Commissioner Shimel seconded. Commissioner Rosen abstained. The vote passed on a voice vote of 2 Yes.

11. Motion to Cancel January 5, 2011 Meeting of the Northampton License Commission

The Clerk will be away on vacation.

Commissioner Rosen moved to cancel the January 5, 2010 meeting; Commissioner Levin seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

At 4:40 p.m., Commissioner Shimel moved to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Rosen. The vote passed unanimously (3-0).

A Special meeting of the Northampton License Commission will be held on November 9, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Northampton License Commission is December 1, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mary L. Midura
Executive Secretary*

From: Gordon Alexander <gordonalexander@comcast.net>

To: bshimel <bshimel@aol.com>

Cc: bakernancy <bakernancy@comcast.net>

Subject: smith's store license

Date: Wed, Nov 3, 2010 2:43 pm

Hi Brad- thanks for taking the time to speak with me today.

To reiterate, several partners and I are very interested in acquiring the Smith's Store license with an eye to transferring it to downtown Northampton and utilizing it for a high-end wine/food shop.

We've only just begun conversations with the licensee and would ask that the Commission continue their hearing on disposition of that license while we explore the possibility of acquiring it. At this point, I've had a third party (my Realtor, Chick Delano) initiate contact with the licensee to preserve a degree of confidentiality.

I've cc'd one of my partners in this matter who will try to attend the meeting regarding this matter; in our absence tonight, please accept this written request for a continuance.

Best regards,

Gordon Alexander
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