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MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

LEVI LINCOLN CHAMBERS

**Commission Members Present:** Anthony Salvidio, Chairman  
Walter Shea, Commissioner  
Barbara Haller, Commissioner

**Commission Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:**

Alexandra Kalkounis, Law Department  
Lt. James Johnson, Worcester Police Department  
Jim Racicot, Inspectional Services  
Deborah Steele, Planning & Regulatory Services

Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.

**Minutes**

August 16, 2018

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of August 16, 2018.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Common Victualer Requests**

**I-1:** La Reyna Express, 90 Madison Street

Request for common victualer license

Mara Sota appeared upon behalf of the application

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Exhibit A: Application for common victualer license dated August 21, 2018 and received August 21, 2018.

**II-2:** Bedlam Book Café, 138 Green Street

Request for common victualer license

Nicole Dicello appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Exhibit A: Application for common victualer license dated August 10, 2018 and received August 10, 2018.

**II-3:** Victoria Evergreen Kitchen, 336 Grafton Street

Request for common victualer license

Jonathan Ahamba appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Exhibit A: Application for common victualer license dated August 10, 2018 and received August 10, 2018.

**Special One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests**

**II-1:** Angela Padavano, 358 Shrewsbury Street

- a. Request for one day liquor license-outside
  - September 9, 2018 – 3:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- b. Request for entertainment license-outside
  - September 9, 2018 – 3:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Rose Padavano appeared upon behalf of the items. Ms. Padavano stated that she like to amend the time so event ends at 9:00 p.m.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license with ending time of 9:00 p.m.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day entertainment license with ending time of 9:00 p.m.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 8, 2018 and received August 9, 2018.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment license dated August 8, 2018 and received August 9, 2018.

**II-2:** Telegram & Gazette, 10 Lake Avenue

Request for one day liquor license

- September 22, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Suzanne DeGeorge appeared upon behalf of the application. She stated that this is for the Dragon Boat Festival and that they will have a beer tent and for security will have two Worcester Police officers and environmental police present for the event.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 15, 2018 and received August 15, 2018.

**II-3:** Cinema Worcester, 230 Park Avenue

Request for one day liquor license

- September 21, 2018 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Andrew Grigrow appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this is for a documentary film presentation.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 20, 2018 and received August 20, 2018.

**II-4:** Kristen Dyer, 1 College Street

Request for one day liquor license

- September 29, 2018 – 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Kristen Dyer appeared upon behalf of the application. She stated that this is for an alumni reception.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 14, 2018 and received August 14, 2018.

**II-5:** The Worcester PopUp, 20 Franklin Street

Request for one day liquor license

- September 29, 2018 – 5:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Hank Von Hellion appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this will be for a comedy festival happening at the Worcester Pop Up.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 28, 2018 and received August 28, 2018.

**II-6: Canal District Alliance, Water Street/Harrison Street**

- a. Request for one day liquor license
  - September 17, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- b. Request for one day entertainment license for live music
  - September 17, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Ed Russo appeared upon behalf of the applications. He stated that this is an event to celebrate the projects upcoming in the Canal District and Water Street will be closed down for the events and Worcester Police will be hired to assist with the event.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day entertainment license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated August 28, 2018 and received August 28, 2018.

**Alcohol & Entertainment Requests**

**III-1: The Axe & Ale House, 177 Grafton Street**

Request for restaurant all alcohol license

Item was postponed to October 4, 2018.

Exhibit A: Application for restaurant all alcohol dated July 5, 2018, 2018 and received July 5, 2018.

**III-2: Riverfront Foodservice Corp., 25 Major Taylor Blvd**

Change of manager

Steven Huriwitz appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of manager.

Exhibit A: Application for change of manager dated July 26, 2018 and received July 26, 2018.

**III-3:** Vernon Hill Post 435 American Legion Dept. of Mass, 267 Providence Street

Request for change of manager

Raymond Siamko appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of manager.

Exhibit A: Application for change of manager dated August 13, 2018 and received August 13, 2018.

**III-4:** Marlboro Food, Inc., 1326 Main Street

Request for transfer of package store malt & wine license

Item was postponed to October 4, 2018.

Exhibit A: Application for transfer of package store malt & wine license dated August 21, 2018 and received August 21, 2018.

**III-5:** Wormtown Brewery, LLC, 72 Shrewsbury Street

Request for alteration of premises

Item was postponed to October 4, 2018.

Exhibit A: Application for alteration of premises dated August 12, 2018 and received August 12, 2018.

**III-6:** Simjang Worcester, 72 Shrewsbury Street

Request for alteration of premises

Sean Woods appeared upon behalf of the application. Lt. Johnson had viewed the site prior to the meeting.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the alteration of premises.

Exhibit A: Application for alteration of premises dated August 6, 2018 and received August 6, 2018.

**III-7:** JP Alliance, Inc. dba Shangri La, 50 Front Street

Request for entertainment license for jukebox, tv, radio, dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers, recorded music, live music, amplification system, play, floor show, light show, karaoke

Item was postponed to September 20, 2018.

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license dated July 6, 2018 and received July 6, 2018.

**III-8:** Gold Coast Catering, 8 Blackstone River Road

Request for entertainment license for jukebox, tv, radio, dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers, recorded music, live music, amplification system, play, moving picture show, floor show, light show, theatrical exhibition, karaoke, any other audio or visual show whether live or recorded specifically

Kojo Aggor appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this is a food only establishment but would like to add entertainment for the customers. The Commission asked what would be the hours and Mr. Aggor stated 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the entertainment license.

Exhibit A: Application for one day entertainment license dated August 22, 2018 and received August 22, 2018.

**Other Business**

**IV-1:** Dubai Restaurant & Lounge, Inc., 27 Pleasant Street

Request to be heard regarding suspension imposed August 16, 2018

Attorney Dan Cotton along with Julio Alcantara appeared upon behalf of the request.

Attorney Cotton stated that Mr. Alcantara does apologize for missing the last meeting but their cleaning person put the notice in a pile of papers inside the establishment and Mr. Alcantrara did not see it.

Attorney Cotton stated that Mr. Alacantra feels that the punishment from the hearing was quite harsh and amounts to almost six weeks of closure for the establishment and there are some extending circumstances.

Chair Salvidio asked if they were contesting that they were notified. Attorney Cotton stated no.

Chair Salvidio asked if they were contesting that an underage person was in the premises drinking and posted the video of it on social media. Attorney Cotton stated no.

Attorney Cotton stated that the night of the fight incident Mr. Alcantara tried to obtain an off duty police officer and was unable to and when Mr. Alcantara observed a fight beginning to start he went up the street to find a police officer to assist him and the police advised him to close the establishment after the fight was under control and Mr. Alcantara did that.

Attorney Cotton stated that they did not dispute that the establishment did not handle the bottle service very well but now they have that under control.

Chair Salvidio asked how long the establishment has been in operation. Mr. Alcantara stated since last October. Chair Salvidio stated that establishment has not in operation for a year yet and has had three violations. Mr. Cotton stated that they did not dispute that.

Attorney Cotton stated that underage girl was the one who posted on social media and police came to visit the establishment and Mr. Alcantara cooperated with the police and provide video from their establishment.

Attorney Cotton stated that they would like to suggest for a suspension an additional Thursday and Friday closure for the next three weeks and they would like to resume bottle service as it is important for them to be able to compete with operations who also do bottle service and they feel that this would be a sufficient punishment. He stated they are trying to do the best they can and they are sorry didn't get their notice and yes it was served.

Chair Salvidio stated his concern is the frequency of the violations that have occurred in the short of amount of time that this establishment has been open and three times within three months within a year of operation he believes the penalty issued was proper as nothing is being contested and no new facts have been presented.

Commissioner Shea stated that there seems to be a lack of responsibility and lack of experience on how to run this operation and feels that the penalty that was given was sufficient.

Commissioner Haller stated that she hasn't heard anything about how they are preventing fights or underage drinking and nothing has been presented showing how they improved the management of the business.

Attorney Cotton stated that one issue maybe that police detail was not present. Commissioner Haller stated that it is not the police detail job to manage Dubai it the management of Dubai who responsible to manage their premises.

Mr. Alcantara stated that changes he has made is he has increased the cover charge, changed the dress code and he meets with his security once a week and they don't allow any gang members in and they are really strict at the door and they haven't had any problems since they made those changes. Mr. Alcantara stated they have also taken the training with the police on the rules and they have new employees coming to work and they want to have them take the class also.

Commissioner Haller stated that she would not be willing to support loosening the conditions the Commission imposed. Commissioner Shea stated he would agree with Commissioner Haller.

The Commission stated that they were not willing to change the dates of the suspension.

Attorney Cotton stated they have an appeal before the ABCC in October and asked if the Commission would be willing to stay the suspension until that hearing is heard. The Commission members stated no.

Exhibit A: Letter from Julio Alcantara dated August 23, 2018 and received August 23, 2018.

### **Communications**

- a. ABCC Notice of Suspension, Bravo Pizzeria and Restaurant, Inc., 57 Highland Street
- b. ABCC Notice of Hearing, Peregrine Endeavors, Inc., 107A Water Street

### **Adjournment**