

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER
SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

Commission Members Participating: Walter Shea, Chairman
Anthony Vigliotti, Commissioner
Barbara Haller, Commissioner

Commission Members Absent:

Staff Participating:

Sergeant Thomas Needham, Worcester Police
Department (remotely)
Deborah Steele, Planning & Regulatory Services

The Worcester License Commission meeting was held in person on August 16, 2021.

Meeting attendees additionally had options to participate remotely by joining online or by phone using the following links;

- Use the following link to join the meeting via computer
<https://cow.webex.com/meet/licensecommissionwebex> or
- Call 415-655-0001 (Access Code: 160 660 9360) for the License Commission.

Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.

Minutes – August 16, 2021

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of August 16, 2021.

Common Victualer Requests

1. Pacha Mama, 160 Green Street- Worcester Public Market

- Wednesday–Sunday: 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Leonard Alraco appeared in person for the meeting. He stated that this will be for a restaurant at the Worcester Public Market.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

List of Exhibits: Common victualer application received and dated August 28, 2021.

2. Jennifer Lee’s Bakery, 127 Cambridge Street

- Monday–Sunday: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Jennifer Sowden. She stated that this will be Allergy/ vegan friendly bakery.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

List of Exhibits: Common victualer application received and dated August 27, 2021.

3. Suleh Ethnic Mart, LLC, 1130 Pleasant Street

- Monday–Sunday: 6:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Korpo Washington appeared in person for the meeting. She stated that this will be for a market on Pleasant Street.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

List of Exhibits: Common victualer application received and dated August 27, 2021.

One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests

4. Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, 65 Boys & Girls Club Way

- Request for one day liquor license
- Friday, September 10, 2021: 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Leah Motsis participating remotely stated that this event will be outside under a tent and for an endowment kickoff for the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

List of Exhibits: One day liquor application received and dated August 6, 2021.

5. Portia Ofosu, 1023 Main Street

- Request for one day liquor license
- Saturday, September 11, 2021: 9:00 p.m. – Midnight

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to allow for Leave to Withdraw.

6. Allison Hale, 100 Barber Avenue

- Request for one day liquor license & one day entertainment license for DJ, comedians, drag queens for photo ops
- September 11, 2021: 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Allison Hale participating remotely stated that this is for a vendor event and there will be a wine bar that will be hosted by Sail To Trail. She stated that about 300 people expected but it split between two ticket time so only 150 people during each time.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license and entertainment license.

List of Exhibits: One day liquor and one day entertainment license requests received and dated July 28, 2021.

7. Jeremy O'Neil dba Oneail FX Studios, LLC, 100 Barber Avenue

- Request for one day liquor license & one day entertainment license for dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers, amplification system
- Saturday-September 18, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to January 2022.

8. Emerald Club of Worcester, Park Avenue

- Request for one day liquor license
- Sunday, October 17, 2021: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the item to the September 16, 2021 License Commission meeting.

9. Chartwells, 50 Prescott Street

- Request for one day liquor license
- Tuesday, October 26, 2021: 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Applicant did not participate for the meeting. Staff reviewed the application with the Commission members.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

List of Exhibits: One day liquor license dated and received August 27, 2021.

10. Chartwells, 100 Institute Road

- Request for one day liquor license
- Saturday, September 18, 2021 – 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Applicant did not participate for the meeting. Staff reviewed the application with the Commission members.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

List of Exhibits: One day liquor license dated and received August 27, 2021.

11. Christopher Besaw, Commercial Street

- Request for one day liquor license & one day entertainment license for dancing by patrons, live music, recorded music, light show
- Saturday, October 23, 2021: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Christopher Besaw participating remotely stated that this will be an outside event for the opening of the Railers. He stated that there is about 1,000 people expected and they will have ten security people.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one day liquor and entertainment license.

List of Exhibits: One day liquor license dated and received August 26, 2021.

Liquor & Entertainment Application Requests

12. The Clock Wine and Beer, LLC dba The Clock, 10-30 Front Street

- Request for package store malt & wine license

A representative from the Clock Wine and Beer LLC participated remotely for the meeting. She stated that this will be for a small wine store at the Midtown Mall.

No one spoke in favor or opposition to the application.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the package store malt & wine license.

List of Exhibits: Package Store malt & wine application received and dated May 26, 2021.

13. Assumption College, 500 Salisbury Street

- Request for change of manager

Michael Rubino and Daniel DuTiollo participated remotely for the item.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of manager.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of manager dated/received August 18, 2021.

14. Residence Inn by Marriott – Worcester – 503 Plantation Street

- Change of Officers/Director/LLC Managers & Change of Ownership Interest (LLC members/LLP Partners Trustees)

Whitney Anderson Gillings participated remotely for the item. She reviewed the changes to the LLC.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of officers/directors/llc managers.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of Officers/Directors/LLC managers dated/received August 18, 2021.

15. Tenglong Corporation 1121 Grafton Street

- Request for change of stock interest

Attorney Wei Jia participated remotely for the item and reviewed the change of stock.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of stock.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of stock received/dated August 18, 2021.

16. Seven Hills Hospitality dba Deadhorse Hill, 281 Main Street

- Request for change of manager

Jared Foreman appeared in person for the application and stated that he is becoming the manager of the licensed premises.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of manager.

List of Exhibits: Application for change manager dated/received August 17, 2021.

17. John Travaglio, Pepe's Trattoria, 179 Shrewsbury Street-Outside area included

- Application to transfer location from 274 Franklin Street

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the item to the September 16, 2021 License Commission meeting.

18. Unique Café – 79 Millbury Street, OD-2021-021

- Application for outdoor dining for 3 tables with 12 seats

No one participated for the item. Staff stated that the application is for food only and plans have been reviewed by staff and acceptable.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the application

List of Exhibits: Application for outdoor dining received and dated August 9, 2021.

Other Business

19. 14 Oread Street – Status of license & change of manager

Michael O'Rourke appeared in person for the item. He stated that work continues on the property and he has repaired the showers and all the bathrooms have been painted. He stated that the fence will be repaired and secured soon and it has been pretty quiet lately.

Commissioner Haller stated that she is happy with the progress that is being made and Commissioner Vigliotti stated that he is impressed with the job that has been done with the facility.

The Commission members stated that they would like to keep the item on through the September 16, 2021 agenda.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the September 16, 2021 License Commission meeting.

20. Worcester Hibernian Cultural Center, 19 Temple Street

- Request for parking lot license for 74 spaces

No one participated for the item. Staff stated that the item had been reviewed and would recommend 69 spaces + 3 handicapped spaces and condition that the fee collection shall not cause traffic to queue onto the street.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the parking lot license with conditions stated.

List of Exhibits: Parking lot application received/dated August 4, 2021.

21. Excellent Investments S Corp, 137 Millbury Street

- Request for parking lot license for 27 spaces

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the application to the September 16, 2021 License Commission meeting.

Violation Hearings

22. Rhino Bites Inc. dba Flying Rhino, 278 Shrewsbury Street

- Violation of Rules #1, #14

Paul Barber appeared in person to answer to the violation and waived his right to counsel.

Sgt. Needham, participating remotely, presented the following;

On June 16, 2021 Officer Patrick Harrington from the Alcohol Enforcement Unit was emailed a SnapChat video that surfaced on social media on June 13, 2021 which appeared to show people inside the Flying Rhino on June 13, 2021 after hours.

The contents of the video shows approximately 8-9 people inside the bar area of the Flying Rhino consuming alcohol and smoking e-cigarettes. On several occasions people in the video are observed dancing and climbing on the bar top and chairs. The video also focuses on a bottle that was out on the bar rack identified as Espolon 750ml Tequila. As the video continues to record a male can be heard stating “after hours, like after hours for real” and the video focuses on the restaurant kitchen prep area which was closed.

On several occasions a time stamp pops on the video with the times 3:40 a.m., 3:52 a.m. and 4:37 a.m.

Officer Harrington met with Mr. Barber, the owner of Flying Rhino, to review the tape and Mr. Barber confirmed that it was inside the premises and that two of the females in the video were employees on the schedule that night.

Paul Barber stated that after meeting with the Worcester Police Department he accessed his own video and the bartenders did closed out at end of shift but then came back and that not his way of doing business as against policy.

Mr. Barber stated that he suspended the two bartenders and then they were terminated and since that time he has been meeting with staff reviewing all the rules and he now checks from his home computer the video surveillance at the premises.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 that the violation did occur.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to issue a one day suspended suspension.

List of Exhibits: Police report dated July 1, 2021.

Communications

ABCC communication – Jian Hui Group, Inc. Violation -Filed

Upon a roll call the Commission voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m.