

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER
JUNE 20, 2019

ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBERS

Commission Members Present:

Walter Shea, Commissioner
Barbara Haller, Commissioner

Commission Members Absent:

Anthony Salvidio, Chairman

Staff Present:

Lt. James Johnson, Worcester Police Department
Alexandra Kalkounis, Law Department
Sergeant Thomas Needham, Worcester Police Department
Officer Patrick Harrington, Worcester Police Department
Deborah Steele, Planning & Regulatory Services

Minutes

June 6, 2019

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of June 6, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

Common Victualer Requests

I-1: CFC dba Crown Fried Chicken, 550 Park Avenue

Request for common victualer license

Salwa Naif appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Exhibit A: Application for common victualer license dated June 4, 2019 and received June 4, 2019.

II-2: Aroma Coffee, 32 Southbridge Street

Request for common victualer license

Rosilda Wheeler appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer application.

Exhibit A: Application for common victualer license dated June 3, 2019 and received June 3, 2019.

Special One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests

II-1: Brendan J. Moran, 19 Temple Street

- Request for one day liquor license
 - September 7, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Brendan J. Moran appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this is for the Canal Diggers Race and about 600-700 people are expected. Mr. Moran stated that detail officers have been hired for the event.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the one day liquor license.

Exhibit A: Application for a one day license dated May 31, 2019 and received May 31, 2019.

II-2: Suzanne DeGeorge,

Request for one day liquor license

- August 3, 2019 – 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
at Worcester Common
- September 21, 2019– 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
at DCR Regatta Point

Suzanne DeGeorge appeared upon behalf of the applications.

She stated that August 3, 2019 is for the Woo Challenge and September 21, 2019 is for the Dragon Boat Festival.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the two one day liquor licenses.

Exhibit A: Application for a one day license dated June 3, 2019 and received June 3, 2019.

Alcohol & Entertainment Requests

III-1: Sail to Trail LLC dba Sail to Trail WineWorks, 100 Barber Avenue

- Request for general on premises all alcohol license
- Request for common victualer license
- Request for entertainment license tv, recorded music, live music

Attorney Devon Kinard appeared upon behalf of the applications.

Commissioner Shea stated that the Commission members and members of the Worcester Police viewed the premises prior to the meeting.

Mr. Kinard reviewed the proposal for the site.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the general on premises all alcohol license.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the entertainment license.

Exhibit A: Application for a general on premises license dated May 30, 2019 and received May 30, 2019

Exhibit B: Application for a common victualer license dated May 30, 2019 and received May 30, 2019

Exhibit C: Application for entertainment license dated May 30, 2019 and received May 30, 2019

III-2: Three G's Entertainment LLC dba Vibrations Nightclub, 109 Water Street

- Request for general on premises all alcohol license
- Request for common victualer license
- Request for entertainment license for jukebox, tv, radio, dancing by patrons, recorded music, live music, amplification system, light show, karaoke, any other audio or visual show, whether live or recorded specifically

Amanda and Michael Obara appeared upon behalf of the applications.

Commissioner Shea stated that the Commission members and members of the Worcester Police viewed the premises prior to the meeting.

Mr. Obara reviewed the plans for the site and stated that the location will be 21 plus.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the general on premises all alcohol license.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the entertainment license.

All licenses were approved with condition that location is 21 plus.

Exhibit A: Application for a general on premises license dated June 4, 2019 and received June 4, 2019

Exhibit B: Application for a common victualer license dated June 4, 2019 and received June 4, 2019

Exhibit C: Application for entertainment license dated June 4, 2019 and received June 4, 2019

III-3: One Pizza, Inc., dba Wonder Bar, 121 Shrewsbury Street

Request for alteration of premises

Commissioner Shea stated that the Commission members and members of the Worcester Police viewed the premises prior to the meeting.

Frank Prizio appeared upon behalf of the location.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the alteration of premises.

Exhibit A: Application for alteration of premises dated May 30, 2019 and received May 30, 2019

III-4: SRG Restaurant of Worcester, LLC, 229 Grove Street

Request for change of manager

Jason Charloff appeared upon behalf of the application.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the change of manager.

Exhibit A: Application for change of manager dated June 4, 2019 and received June 4, 2019

III-5: The Cedar Box, Inc., 15 Hamilton Street

Request to amend entertainment license to add a dj and a dance floor

Item was postponed to July 18, 2019.

Exhibit A: Application to amend entertainment license dated May 30, 2019 and received May 30, 2019

III-6: David Domenick, 90 Harding Street-Outside

Request for one day liquor license

- July 16, 2019 – 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- September 21, 2019 – Noon – 5:00 p.m.

David Domenick and Paul Giorgio appeared upon behalf of the applications.

Mr. Domenick stated that September 21, 2019 is for a chili festival and July 16, 2018 is for an international cooperative event.

The Commission and the applicant discussed the security and the fencing for the events.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the two one day liquor licenses.

Exhibit A: Application for one day license dated June 14, 2019 and received June 14, 2019

Hearings

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

Violation of Rule #1-hours

Luis Arias appeared to answer to the violation and waived his right to counsel.

Lt. Johnson presented the following,

On May 3, 2019 at 1:40 a.m. Officer Edward Saucier of the Alcohol Enforcement Unit was in the area of Dubai and observed that the front door was locked.

Officer Saucier observed that there were patrons still inside and music was still playing. Upon trying to gain entrance the security guard waved him off until the security guard realized that Officer Saucier was from the Worcester Police Department and opened the door. The security guard stated that the front door was broken and locked automatically when closed.

Officer Saucier spoke with the manager of record, Julio R. Alcantara, who stated the doorman had locked the door to prevent more people coming inside and the door was broken and had to be rigged from the inside with a “zip tie” to keep it from locking.

Officer Saucier reported his findings to Sergeant Thomas Needham who stated that Dubai had been warned about the locked door on multiple occasions.

Mr. Arais stated he was not the manager of record the evening the violation had occurred but admitted that the violation had occurred and it was a miscommunication between the security guard and the previous manager.

Mr. Arais stated that he had a meeting with staff and they take full responsibility for what happened that evening.

The Commission stated that this happened under the previous manager and owner and they have not lived up to their responsibility on running a business.

Commissioner Haller stated it was disappointing to see Dubai before Commission again.

Mr. Arais stated that the door should not have been locked and security should have said they were just not accepting any more people in as they are at capacity.

Mr. Arais stated that he is trying to employ new staff.

Lt. Johnson suggested that if there is any suspension imposed that during that time Mr. Arias meet with the Worcester Police Department to review rules and security.

Upon roll call the Commission voted 2-0 that the violation had occurred.

The Commission noted that there was a 30 day suspended suspension still in effective for this location.

Upon a roll call the Commission voted 2-0 to impose the 30 day suspended suspension as well as an additional 30 day suspension. The suspension will begin July 1, 2019. The Commission also would like the license holder to meet with the Worcester Police Department to review security protocols and rules for location.

Exhibit A: Police report dated May 6, 2019

IV-2: Electric Haze, 26 Millbury Street

Violation of Rule #14, #30 – Manager responsible for premises

Victoria Mariano appeared to answer to the violation and waived her right to counsel.

On May 8, 2019 Officer Patrick Harrington and members of the Worcester Alcohol Unit were conducting compliance check and went to Electric Haze.

Upon entering Electric Haze the officers noticed a full size wrestling ring with live matches in the center of Electric Haze. Officer Harrington observed advertisement signs with a promoted event called Uncharted Territory independent wrestling. Electric Haze had not notified the Worcester Police of any promoted event as required.

Officer Harrington spoke with Eric Collier and inquired about the event and the crowd manager fire and building safety checklist required to be completed by Electric Haze each evening open. Mr. Collier could not provide copies of the crowd manager certificates and stated that the fire & building safety checklist must have been overlooked that evening.

Ms. Mariano admitted that the violation had occurred and apologized for the incident. Ms. Mariano stated that they are usually very good about filling out the crowd management paperwork and stated that she was unaware of the rule that she needed to notify the Worcester Police of the events but since the incident she has emailed any events to them.

Ms. Mariano stated that they are going to be applying for a change of manager to her business partner and this was just a mistake.

Upon a roll call the Commission voted 2-0 that the violation had occurred.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to impose a one day suspended suspension.

Exhibit A: Police report dated May 17, 2019.

IV-3: 90 Harding St LLC dba Compass Tavern, 90 Harding Street

Violation of Rule #14 – Manager responsible for premises

Item postponed to July 18, 2019.

Exhibit A: Police report dated May 17, 2019.

Other Business

- Server Training programs for license holders – Postponed to July 18, 2019.
- Dubai Restaurant & Lounge, Inc., 27 Pleasant Street-Request to amend police detail condition-Postponed to August, 2019.

Communications

Email Communication dated June 7, 2019 – Dubai Restaurant & Lounge – change of hours on Sunday-Filed.

ABCC Communication dated June 2, 2019 – Jeet Investments dba G&M Grocery – Violation Hearing-Sale to minor (3 counts)-Filed.

Adjournment

Upon a motion the Commission voted 2-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m.