

MINUTES

The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners / Liquor Control Board held their regular meeting on November 5, 2009 at 9:00 AM. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Bea Crosco and Mike Fratz, Administrator to the Board, Deborah R. Owston, and Administrative Assistant, Amanda Klotz.

Commissioner Crosco called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Commissioner Crosco to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Fratz and approved. The Board signed mileage sheets.

Before the meeting, there was general discussion. Ms Owston brought a few newspaper ads to the Boards attention. One, for the Santé Fe Grille, advertised, "sampling your favorite drinks". Ms Owston had contacted the establishment and was informed that the samples would not be free. The intent was that customers purchase their favorite margaritas. Mountain State Brewing Company advertised an Oktoberfest on a Sunday with beer tastings and bratwurst specials. When Ms. Owston contacted them, it was explained that a fee would be charged and customers would receive tickets to use for samples of different beers. Jearbryo's was advertising a Halloween night with the option to bring your own bottle. There is no issue with this; however, it is not a common practice. Ms Owston also informed the Board that new editions of Article 2B books are available at a cost of \$50. This is the first time the Board would be responsible for purchasing the books since the Comptroller's Office will no longer be funding. Therefore, a total of approximately \$300, which was not budgeted, will be necessary to purchase the required books. Ms. Owston went over police reports that had been received on two separate establishments recently. The Sheriff's Office received a complaint alleging underage patrons possibly being served at the Table Rock Inn. Ms. Owston followed up with management of the establishment and explained that they may want to establish a policy in which they use some type of wrist band to distinguish a minor from a person of age or set a time of day where no one under the age of twenty-one is allowed on the premises. Police were called to Mooney's Pub on October 9, 2009 for a man with a handgun. Police investigated this incident and an arrest was made. Ms. Owston will be contacting Mr. Kurilla in reference to this incident and attempt to get more information about the incident. Ms. Owston will contact the Board members with further information later and a decision can be made at that time as to whether a letter should be sent or whether Mr. Kurilla will be asked to appear before the Board.

A license hearing was held at 9:30 AM for a Special Class "C" 2-day BWL License to be issued to the Knights of Columbus #1771. Mr. John Toston was present at the hearing. Mr. Toston explained that the event will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2009 and will include all you can eat shrimp and roast beef as well as beverages including beer. The tickets state, "no one under 18 will be admitted" and "laws regarding alcohol consumption will be enforced." A server will dispense the beer and that person will be carding if necessary. Ms. Owston suggested that since there may be individuals at the event that are under 21 the use of wristbands could be used to distinguish those under the age of twenty-one. She recommended Mr. Toston check with Lohr Distributors when the beer is purchased as to the availability. Ms. Owston questioned how many tickets were being sold to this event. Mr. Toston indicated that there is a 200 ticket limit for this event. Ms.

Owston asked whether there would be any type of entertainment to which Mr. Toston indicated that there would be music by Neal Krebbs. Commissioner Fratz made a motion to approve the license and Commissioner Crosco seconded the motion and approved. After appropriate fees were paid, the license was issued. A sample copy of the Maryland driver's license guide was given to Mr. Toston.

There was general discussion following the hearing. Ms. Owston requested that the record show that on October 7, 2009 the Board approved a license upgrade for Savage River Lodge to include the Catering Option with Commissioner Crosco making the motion to approve, Commissioner Fratz seconding the motion and Chairperson Gearhart making it unanimous. Ms. Owston indicated that she had not heard from the Dove Center in reference to the Festival of Trees events that are set to begin on November 25, 2009. Zip-eez's recently had several new employees attend a TIPS training with DaVina Griffith. Lucas Properties, LLC was accepted by the State on October 13th to operate the Table Rock Inn. Mr. Lucas provided the Sales and Use Tax number on Monday and has already received his Health Permit for the establishment. Ms. Owston indicated that a complaint had been received on the Silver Tree Inn, however there is currently no other information available on it due to an ongoing investigation. Eastern Garrett Fire Department will be having an event on November 21st. Ms. Owston indicated that El Canelo's is now under new management, however the application to transfer the license has not yet been received. The deadline for them to submit is next Thursday if they wish to go before the Board at the December meeting. The audit report for the Liquor Control Board was distributed to the members and reviewed. Any questions regarding this may be directed to Ms. Owston.

After the general discussion, the next meeting was set for December 3, 2009. There being no further business, Commissioner Fratz motioned that the meeting be adjourned, which Commissioner Crosco seconded.

Thomas A. Gearhart
Chairperson

December 3, 2009
Date