



## **ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE CONTROL COMMITTEE**

Beloit City Hall - The Forum

100 State Street, Beloit, WI

February 11, 2014 - 4:00 p.m.

Present: Betty Barnett, Ralph Berkley, Malissa Cronin, Tina Goecks, John Metter, Ron Tilley, Joseph Vickerman  
Absent: Councilor Kevin Leavy (non-voting)  
Advisory: Captain Dan Risse, Deputy City Attorney Elizabeth Krueger

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chairman Ralph Berkley with a quorum present.
2. Consideration of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 14, 2014. Motion to approve by Mr. Metter, second by Mr. Tilley. Motion carried.
3. Application for "Class B" Beer and "Class B" Liquor for Pitchers Mound LTD LLC, d/b/a Pitchers Mound, 2745 Prairie Avenue. Robert Lee Lewis, owner/Agent, and current license-holder, Donna Nass, appeared.

Captain Risse stated he checked municipal and state criminal records and to the best of his knowledge with the available information, the character, record, and reputation of the Agent are satisfactory and the Police Department has no objection to this license applicant.

Deputy City Attorney Krueger asked Mr. Lewis to reaffirm that he understood that as Agent he is personally responsible for all alcohol violations that may occur on the premises whether he is present or not. Mr. Lewis responded that he understood this responsibility. Attorney Krueger asked Mr. Lewis if he would have anyone assist him since he is new to running a bar. Mr. Lewis stated that he has an agreement with the current license-holder, Donna Nass, who will be assisting him in running the business for two months. Ms. Nass stated she would be at the business frequently to assist Mr. Lewis and said the current experienced staff has agreed to continue working at Pitchers Mound.

Mr. Tilley asked if there are cameras at the business, and Mr. Lewis stated there are and that he planned to update those cameras for better visibility. The committee encouraged Mr. Lewis to rely on Ms. Nass's training when he takes over the business.

Mr. Tilley moved approval of the application of Pitchers Mound LTD LLC, second by Mr. Metter. Motion carried.

4. Application for Change of Agent at Walgreen Co., d/b/a Walgreens #12136, 910 Broad Street, from Brenda Neumann to Jennifer Boyle. Proposed Agent, Jennifer Boyle, appeared.

Captain Risse stated he checked municipal and state criminal records and to the best of his knowledge with the available information, the character, record, and reputation of the Agent are satisfactory and the Police Department has no objection to this appointment based upon the records checked.

Attorney Krueger asked Ms. Boyle if she understood that she would be accountable for all alcohol violations that may occur on the premises whether she is present or not. Ms. Boyle replied that she understood this responsibility.

Mr. Metter moved approval of the appointment of Jennifer Boyle as Agent for Walgreens #12136, second by Ms. Goecks. Motion carried.

5. Consideration of the Class "B" Beer and Reserve "Class B" Liquor License of Hourglass Media LLC, d/b/a The Castle, 501 Prospect Street, John Wittnebel, Agent, which was granted by City Council on July 15, 2013. Mr. Wittnebel appeared and Jody Wittnebel was in attendance.

Attorney Krueger explained that this license has not been used within six months of issuance as required by City Code and that Mr. Wittnebel is asking this committee and the City Council for an extension of time to complete the renovation. Attorney Krueger stated Mr. Wittnebel will also submit an amendment to his liquor application to include only the lower and main levels of the building and this amendment will be referred to ABLCC on March 11, 2014. Attorney Krueger explained that when the upper level of The Castle is renovated, Mr. Wittnebel will again submit an application to amend his liquor license to include the third floor of the building and this will come before ABLCC and City Council.

Mr. Wittnebel stated none of his plans for the business have changed since his last appearance before this committee; however, there is a great amount of renovation work to be done as they incurred many problems trying to renovate the 100 year old building. Mr. Wittnebel confirmed that he will appear at the March 11<sup>th</sup> ABLCC meeting with a request to amend the description of his alcohol license to include only the lower and main floors. Mr. Wittnebel stated he has an art and music expo hosted by BARN and Beloit College on April 12<sup>th</sup> which will use only the lower and main floors of the building. He further explained that the area that is not ready for occupancy will be physically separated from the unfinished section until those areas are fit for occupancy later this year.

Metter moved approval of an extension of time to open for business at The Castle to June 30, 2014, second by Cronin. Motion carried.

6. Consideration of incidents at the Eagles Club, 302 State Street. Agent, Ronald Minnick and bar manager/head Trustee, Brian Hines, appeared.

Captain Risse explained that problems started at the Eagles Club immediately after they began allowing non-members to rent the facility. Captain Risse stated that since the end of December when the Eagles Club changed their rental policy back to members only, there have been no problems.

Mr. Minnick apologized for the problems that occurred at the Eagles Club and stated they changed their policy back to allow only members and their families to rent the facility; except for benefits, bridal showers and wedding receptions. He stated they do not allow hip hop music and have turned down offers from outside groups to prevent problems at the Eagles Club.

Mr. Metter asked who is in charge of the business and who makes the decisions about the rules and by-laws of the Eagles Club. Mr. Minnick said the Board of Trustees makes all the financial decisions and

makes the rules and changes to the by-laws. Mr. Berkley suggested that the rules about who may rent the facility be put in the by-laws of the Eagles Club to prevent any suggestion of bias. Mr. Hines reported the Trustees are currently revising the by-laws and will definitely amend them to list who may or may not rent the facility.

7. Citizens Comments: None

8. Committee Comments: Mr. Metter asked Captain Risse for a report on the problems at Sara's Pub. Captain Risse stated the PD started a monitoring program at that location and the police report was distributed in the member's packets. Captain Risse said since the surveillance program started in December, the calls for service have diminished to where there were no calls for service for the last surveillance report.

Ms. Cronin asked if Rivals Bar got permission to consume alcohol in their outdoor area. Attorney Krueger stated they did not come to ABLCC when they applied to amend their alcohol application; therefore, the matter did not go forward to City Council and they do not have permission for consumption in the outdoor area. Ms. Cronin stated she was at Rivals over the weekend and observed patrons consuming alcohol outside. Captain Risse stated he would have officers check out Rivals and talk with the owner, Brad McCaslin.

9. Police Department Comments: Nothing further.

10. Attorney Comments: Nothing further.

11. At 4:43 p.m. Mr. Metter moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Tilley. Motion carried.

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Judith A. Elson  
Deputy City Clerk