

Minutes of the Liquor Control Review Board
Tuesday, August 26, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall - Room 215

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Scaman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Victoria Scaman, Members John Lipic, Jeanette Mancusi, Jane Miller, and Sara Spivy (7:32)

Also Present: Village Attorney Paul Stephanides and Business Services Manager Loretta Daly

3. **Agenda Approval**

It was moved by Member Mancusi and seconded by Miller to approve the Agenda as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

4. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Member Spivy and seconded by Member Mancusi to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 22, 2014 as presented. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved as presented.

6. **New Business**

A. Little Gem Café (new liquor license)

Judith Lalor introduced herself and explained that Little Gem, Inc. is the new lessee of the property, formerly the Marion Street Grille, located at 189 N. Marion Street, and she is the owner of the corporation. Ms. Lalor stated that she is originally from Manchester, England, but has spent the last 27 years in Manhattan, N.Y. Through college she bartended and served in restaurants and clubs and eventually owned her own business that she identified as a swing era (1940's and 50's) type of club, in N.Y. She sold that business and moved to Oak Park in May of this year. She is applying for a Restaurant Class B-1 liquor license and has completed the application process to date, fingerprinting, background check. She and all servers will complete BASSETT training. She anticipates no changes to the current floor plan, will be open for both lunch and dinner, and is the sole owner, operator and manager. She plans to be open in early October.

It was moved by Member Mancusi and seconded by Member Miller to recommend approval of a Restaurant Class B-1 liquor license for Little Gem Café, located on the property at 189 N. Marian Street.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Lipic, Mancusi, Miller, and Spivy; Chair Scaman

NAYS: None

The motion was approved.

B. Mancini's (new liquor license)

James Newman introduced himself and his wife, and business partner, Marie Newman. Mr. Newman explained his previous experience as a business consultant and Mrs. Newman spoke of her experience as an advertising consultant and experience with various for-profit and non-profit businesses. Mr. Newman clarified that Prosperare Enterprises LLC is applying for a new liquor license though it had been operating under the current license for Mancini's, because they bought into the Mancini's corporation, and they were added to the existing license. The Newmans as owners of the limited liability company, are now taking over the business from Mr. Mancini and need to apply for their own license under their new corporation. Mr. Newman stated that little has changed from the former Mancini business, i.e., a good part of the staff remains, the look of the menu has changed, but the menu itself has not, and delivery is still a large part of the business. Mr. Newman stated that he would be operating the business day-to-day, and that he is BASSETT trained. The members noted that even though Mrs. Newman did not consider herself a manager, and does not serve any alcohol, she should complete the BASSETT training.

It was moved by Member Lipic and seconded by Member Mancusi to recommend approval of a liquor license for Prosperare Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Mancini's.

Member Lipic amended his motion to approve the recommendation to include a contingency approval of outdoor service if there is in-fact an outdoor service area on the property, and that BASSETT training be completed by both owners prior to the recommendation being presented to the Village Board. The motion was seconded by Member Mancusi.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Lipic, Mancusi, Miller, and Spivy; Chair Scaman

NAYS: None

The amended motion was approved.

C. Annual Renewals

August 2014 annual renewals for liquor licenses were presented. It was moved by Member Spivy and seconded by Member Mancusi to approve the annual renewals for August 2014 as presented.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Lipic, Mancusi, Miller, and Spivy; Chair Scaman

NAYS: None

The motion was approved.

D. Discussion of 2015 Work Plan

Discussion and review of bars/taverns. Chairman Scaman explained that the Liquor Control Review Board (“LCRB”) had been tasked by the Village Board with looking at whether or not there should be a bar/tavern liquor license, prior to having an applicant actually ask for one. That would require collecting and analyzing data concerning the licensing of bars and taverns. The data collected would need to include licensing requirements, the application process, areas of concern, i.e., underage drinking issues, community surveys, from the Village’s comparable communities, including their police departments. Additionally, any community surveys, and public hearings concerning the licensing of bars and taverns would be helpful. Clarification of “staff” was answered to include Business Service Manager Loretta Daly, and Village Attorney Paul Stephanides. Chair Scaman will need to reappear before the Village Board with a timeline for the review of the bar and tavern licenses. The report to the Village Board should include a history of liquor in the Village and any economic impact in the comparable communities. The LCRB will hold forums with the community.

7. Old Business

A. Application of Café Fresh (name change only) for a Club Class D-3.

Chairman Scaman made a motion to approve the name change on the liquor license for Café Fresh for a Club Class D-3 license. The State Liquor Board would not issue a state license to Café Fresh because the name on the license and the name on the lease for the premises did not match. The Members discussed the application and for some of the information on the application is illegible, so the Members asked for a new application with both Randy and Kyle on the application, with both persons fingerprinted and both BASSETT trained with such training substantiated. There were also some issues with their certificate of insurance for liability. Incorporation papers from the state do not indicate that the application should have been a name change. **Tabled to next meeting.**

B. Discussion of proposal from Avarom d/b/a Careful Peach Boutique to create a liquor License classification for sale of wine only by a retail merchant.

The Members asked that the Law Department look at the proposed ordinance and their business plan, and that Careful Peach Boutique attend the meeting next month.
Tabled to next meeting.

Administrative Report

None.

Board Member Comments

Chairman Scaman discussed the stamping of individual books by staff at the Seven Generation Ahead Micro Brew Fest held on August 16, 2014. Chairman Scaman stated that some persons may have been over served.

Member Mancusi stated that this has been an absolute pleasure to serve on the Liquor Control Review Board and that she has to resign as Member due to the travel requirements of her new job. Liquor Control Review Board Members and Chairman Scaman thanked Member Mancusi for her service.

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Mancusi and seconded by Member Miller to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m., Tuesday, August 26, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul L. Stephanides, Board Liaison and Recording Secretary