

**LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FOR HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
16 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
January 12, 2022

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**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Tilley. In attendance were Vice Chair Majewski, Commissioners Merchant, Welch and Burdette along with Board Counsel Amy K. Finneran and Judith Powell.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes for October 27, November 3, November 17, and December 1; the vote was unanimous.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Harford Bank	Withholding	2271.42
Comptroller of MD	Withholding	714.91
Payroll	Payroll	7821.88
ConnectPay	Accounting	359.45
MD State Retirement	Withholding	489.55
Amy Finneran	Legal Expenses	1500.00
Kopin LLC	Rent	2642.00
Malissa Roche	Maintenance	60.00
Glenn Peters	Covert Expense	100.00
Comcast	Telephone	208.94
Kelly & Assoc.	Insurance	2487.73

**PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD**

1) Hickory Lodge, L.L.C., T/A Hickory Lodge – Change of Officers Transfer

David K. Steele, Member, Hickory Lodge, L.L.C. T/A Hickory Lodge, 2119 Conowingo Road, Bel Air, appeared along with their attorney, Albert J.A. Young, in connection with a Change of Officers Transfer Application for this Class BNR-BWL-On Sale Only License. The purpose of the application is to remove Colin Snyder, Member, and add David Steele, Member. Membership interest in the L.L.C. will be 45% for Robyn Steele (Legal Guardian), Member, and 45% for David Steele. The remaining 10% is assigned back to Hickory Lodge, L.L.C., until such time as a replacement is found. Mr. Steele will serve as the Responsible Operator and has passed the licensee test. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

2) Bruno's Land & Sea Restaurant, L.L.C., T/A Bruno's Land & Sea Restaurant – New License

Jeffrey D. Utain, Member, Bruno's Land & Sea Restaurant, L.L.C., T/A Bruno's Land & Sea Restaurant, 2101 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, appeared along with their attorney, Melvin J. Kodenski in connection with an Application for a New Class B1-BW-On Sale Only License. The proposed licensed premises is located approximately 102 feet from the RCCG Tabernacle of Praise; however, the applicant obtained a recommendation from the Harford County Council for the Board to waive the 300-foot restriction from a place of worship for this business. Membership Interest in the L.L.C. is as follows: Jeffrey Utain holds 10%, with the remaining 90% held by Harford Land & Sea, L.L.C. Mr. Utain will serve as the Responsible Operator and has taken and passed the licensee test. Motion was made and seconded to approve this Application; the vote was unanimous.

3) Plaza Mexico of Bel Air, L.L.C., T/A Plaza Mexico – New License

Benigno Ayala, Member, Isaac Herrera, Member, and Flor Teresa Pulido Nunez, Member, Plaza Mexico of Bel Air, L.L.C. T/A Plaza Mexico, 1341 James Way, Belcamp, appeared along with their attorney Eric E. MacLauchlin in connection with an application for a New Class BNR-BWL-On Sale Only License. Membership interest in the L.L.C. is as follows: Benigno Ayala has 30%, Isaac Herrera and Flor Pulido Nunez each have 10%, and the remaining 50% interest is split between 5 other individuals who will not be on the license. Isaac Herrera will serve as the Responsible Operator and all three applicants have taken and passed the licensee test. As part of the requirements for a BNR License, the applicants have submitted invoices for new kitchen equipment and dining room facilities that total \$257,136. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

4) QSA Foods, Inc., T/A All American Steak House – New License (POSTPONED)

This hearing has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

### SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS

1) Mad Forest, L.L.C. T/A Black Forest Tap House

Alexandros Theodoropoulos, Member, Dana Theodoropoulos, Member, Mad Forest, L.L.C. t/a Black Forest Tap House, 2410 Pleasantville Road, Fallston, Maryland 21047 appeared in proper person in connection with a show cause hearing indicating violation of:

Charge (1) - Failure to maintain records as required by the Board, including employee records, and provide them for inspection in violation of Board Rule 3:06.

Charge (2) - Failure to cooperate with a representative of the Board in violation of Board Rule 3:02.

The Violations occurred on November 17, 2021.

Subsequent to the Hearing, the Board considered all the evidence presented. Based upon the statement of facts (i.e., the written report of Board Inspector William Colburn), as well as applicable License Holders' testimony, and with further consideration to License Holders' relevant past record (if any) motion was made and duly seconded to find License Holders **in violation** of Charge (1) - Board Rule 3:14 - Failure to maintain records as required by the Board, including employee records, and provide them for inspection

Additionally, motion was made and duly seconded to find License Holders **in violation** of Charge (2) - Board Rule 3:02 - Failure to cooperate with a representative of the Board.

Motion was made and duly seconded to fine License Holders \$1,000.00 for Charge (1); the vote was unanimous.

Motion was made and duly seconded to fine License Holders \$1,000.00 for Charge (2); the vote was unanimous.

2) Mint 1, Inc. T/A The Mint Room (POSTPONED)

This show cause hearing has been rescheduled to February 23.

3) Ziller, L.L.C. T/A Abbey Burger Havre de Grace

Jason R. Zink, Managing Member, Harry R. Miller, Managing Member, Marigot K. Miller, Managing Member, Ziller, L.L.C. T/A Abbey Burger Havre de Grace, 226 N. Washington Street, Havre de Grace appeared along with their attorney, Stephan W. Fogleman, in proper person in connection with a show cause hearing indicating violation of:

Charge (1) - Sale and/or provision of alcoholic beverages to an individual under the legal drinking age of twenty-one (21) years in violation of Alcoholic Beverage Article (AB) § 6-304 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Code") and Board Rule 4:01.

The Violation occurred on November 23, 2021.

Subsequent to the Hearing, the Board considered all the evidence presented. Based upon the statement of facts (i.e., the written report of Board Inspector William Colburn), as well as applicable License Holders' testimony, and with further consideration to License Holders' relevant past record (if any) motion was made and duly seconded to find License Holders **in violation** of Charge (1) - Sale and/or provision of alcoholic beverages to an individual under the legal drinking age of twenty-one (21) years in violation of Alcoholic Beverage Article (AB) § 6-304 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Code") and Board Rule 4:01.

Motion was made and seconded to impose a fine of \$1,500.00; the vote was unanimous.

4) Mr. Souvlaki, L.L.C. T/A Mr. Souvlaki (POSTPONED)

This hearing has been rescheduled to February 9.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

1) Grill Sensations, L.L.C. T/A Towne Grill & Pub – Supplemental Application

Bradley E. Delbridge, President, Grill Sensations, L.L.C. T/A Towne Grill & Pub, 1006 Joppa Farm Road in Joppa has submitted a Supplemental Application to remove Michael DePalo from the License. Mr. DePalo sold all of his interest to Mr. Delbridge, who now holds 100% interest in the L.L.C. Mr. Delbridge will continue to serve as the Responsible Operator. A fully executed copy of the Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement remains outstanding. Motion was made and seconded to approve the application contingent on receipt of the Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement; the vote was unanimous.

2) Forest Hill Wine & Liquor, L.L.C. T/A Forest Hill Wine & Liquor – 60 Day Status Update

A 60-day update has been submitted for Forest Hill Wine & Liquor, L.L.C. A building contractor has been hired and is moving forward with obtaining the required permits, plans, and equipment. There is not yet a projected completion date.

3) Fines Paid – Chips & Salsa, L.L.C. T/A Abingdon Grill (\$100.00 AA); P.J.C, Inc. T/A Ice House Liquors (\$2,000.00 underage sale)

4) Harford County Council Zoning Moratorium Extension

The Harford County Council approved an extension of the temporary moratorium that waived provisions of the zoning code prohibiting outside seating spaces on sidewalks or in parking lots. This extension became effective on 12/13/21 and extends through the end of year (12/31/22). Motion was made and seconded to extend the temporary approvals that have been granted since the start of the pandemic through 12/31/2022.

5) Bayou, Inc. T/A Bayou Restaurant – Request Escrow

Bayou Restaurant has closed after 39 years of serving Harford County and requested the license be held in escrow. Motion was made and seconded to approve the request; the vote was unanimous.

#### **PER DIEM BEER & WINE LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

1) Harford Artists Association – Art Shows and Receptions

Motion was made and seconded to approve beer and wine license applications on behalf of the Harford Artists Association for receptions that will be held on January 15, March 12, May 14, July 17, September 17, and November 12; the vote was unanimous.

#### **STAFF REPORT / PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT**

There were no comments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the meeting; the vote was unanimous.

Minutes from the Harford County Liquor Control Board Meeting on January 12, 2022, have been reviewed and approved by the following:

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Walter A. Tilley III, Chair

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Frederic L. Merchant, Commissioner

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Paul J. Majewski II, Vice Chair

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James E. Welch, Commissioner

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Susan Burdette, Commissioner