

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Liquor Control Board for Harford County was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Goddard at the Board's office. In attendance were Vice Chair Majewski, Commissioners Sines, Walters, Miller, Board Counsel Amy K. Finneran, and General Manager Crabbs.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to approve payment of the following bills.

Leaf	Copier Lease	615.00
Intuit-QuickBooks	Office	307.38
Malissa Roche	Maintenance	80.00
Harford Mutual	Insurance	337.00
Metro Data	Computer	664.00
VIABIT, LLC	Computer	180.00

PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1) First-Time Applicants – The Highlands School – B&W

First-time applicants Claudia Nachtigal and Mark Grams appeared on behalf of The Highlands School in connection with a per diem beer and wine license application for an outdoor cornhole tournament at The Highlands School on May 4. Commissioner Walters disclosed that his wife is on the Board at the school and he conducts business with the School. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

2) First-Time Applicant – The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation – BWL

First-time applicant Geordan Sommer and previous applicant Sarah Karantonis appeared on behalf of The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation in connection with a per diem beer, wine and liquor license application for their annual Sailboat Regatta and Shore Party to be held at the Concord Point Park on June 14. Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

3) First-Time Applicants – Aberdeen Rotary – B&W

First-time applicants Donald Curry and George Heidelmaier appeared on behalf of Aberdeen Rotary in connection with a per diem beer and wine license application for a bull roast being held at Havre de Grace Community Center on April 27. (Mr. Curry and Mr. Heidelmaier were previous per diem license holders, however, it has been more than three years since a license has been issued to them.) Commissioner Miller disclosed that she has conducted business with Mr. Heidelmaier. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous.

4) Bergen Unlimited, Inc. T/A The Grazing Room at Boards by Dana – New License

Dana Berbenich, President, Bergen Unlimited, Inc. T/A The Grazing Room at Boards by Dana, 15 E Churchville Road, Suite 109, Bel Air appeared in proper person in connection with an Application for a Class B Café-BW-On/Off Sale License. Ms. Berbenich holds 100% interest in the corporation, has passed the licensee test, and will serve as the Responsible Operator. Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded to approve the application; the vote was unanimous. This license will be effective May 1, 2024.

SHOW CAUSE HEARING

1) Plaza Mexico of Fallston, Inc. T/A Plaza Mexico

Thomas Myers, Vice President, Plaza Mexico of Fallston, Inc. T/A Plaza Mexico, 2314 Bel Air Road, Fallston previously appeared on March 6 as indicated in a show cause letter dated January 25. Jose Murillo, President and Responsible Operator, did not appear for the hearing and the Board rescheduled the show cause hearing and

required both license holders to appear. Jose Murillo and Thomas Myers did appear in proper person this date in connection with violation of the following:

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 the Alcoholic Beverage Article (AB) § 6-304 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Code") and Board Rule 4:01.

The violation occurred on December 18, 2023.

Subsequent to the Hearing, the Board considered all the evidence presented. Based upon the statement of facts (i.e., the written report of Chief Inspector Daniel Buchler), as well as applicable License Holder's testimony, motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was duly seconded to find License Holder in Violation of Alcoholic Beverage Article § 6-311(b)(1) and (3) of the Annotated Code of Maryland and Board Rule 4:18; the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded by Commissioner Miller to convene to executive session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; the vote was unanimous.

On returning to public session, motion was made by Commissioner Sines to and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$1000.00; the vote was unanimous.

Additionally, the Board made the following findings at the hearing:

Charge 2: That on March 6, 2024, (Violation Date) Mr. Jose Murillo, a License Holder, President and Responsible Operator for Plaza Mexico of Fallston, Inc., t/a Plaza Mexico, "failed to appear" for the original Show Cause Hearing, on March 6, 2024, at 16 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014, after being duly summoned by the Board's representative in violation of Board Rule 2:32(b). Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to find License Holder in violation of BR 2:32(b); the vote was unanimous. Motion was made by Commissioner Walters and was seconded to impose a fine in the amount of \$250.00; the vote was unanimous.

PER DIEM LICENSES TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1) Mary's Army - Breast Cancer Fundraiser - 4/27 - BWL

Submitted by Mary Simpler and Melodie Alchimowicz on behalf of Mary's Army for Breast Cancer fundraiser being held on 4/27 at Friendship Park. Motion made by Commissioner Miller and seconded to approve the per diem BWL license application; the vote was unanimous.

2) Ladew Topiary Gardens - Friends of the Festival - 5/3 - BWL

Submitted by Emily Emerick and Barbara Barnoff on behalf of Ladew Topiary Gardens for their Friends of the Festival event being held on 5/3. Motion was made by Vice Chair Majewski and was seconded to approve the per diem BWL license application; the vote was unanimous.

3) Bel Air Downtown Alliance - First Friday Events - 5/3, 6/7, 7/5, 8/2, 9/6, 10/4 - BWL

Submitted by Shelby Tittle and Emma Knight on behalf of Bel Air Downtown Alliance for the First Friday Events being held on 5/3, 6/7, 7/5, 8/2, 9/6, and 10/4. Motion was made by Commissioner Miller and was seconded to approve the per diem BWL license application; the vote was unanimous. Chair Goddard disclosed that he previously served on the Alliance's Board and is conducting business with the Alliance.

RENEWALS FOR APPROVAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve 16 renewal applications that were presented to the Board; the vote was unanimous. There are 40 renewal applications that have issues to be resolved; motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to release licenses as the issues are resolved; the vote was unanimous. In the event a license holder needs additional time to resolve tax issues, motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to allow GM Crabbs to grant a 10 day license extension; the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1) Final Approval – Contract for Legal Services

Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve Ms. Finneran's contract for legal services; the vote was unanimous.

2) 2024-2025 Budget

Vehicle expenses were increased due to the purchase of a second auto. The Board room upgrade was previously approved for \$3000. Determination was made that employees who do not participate in the health insurance coverage will not be compensated. Net cash position was discussed.

3) Approve S B & Company, L.L.C. to Perform the 2023-2024 Audit

The auditor's fee is an additional \$400 this year. Motion was made by Commissioner Sines and was seconded to approve S B & Company, L.L.C. for the 2023-2024 audit; the vote was unanimous.

STAFF REPORT / PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT

Legislative bills that were passed were the Golf Simulator License, For Profit Performing Arts License, Performing Arts for Non Profits, and the stadium license was not crossed filed in the Senate but they were successful in reducing the license fee from \$10,000 to \$7,000.

A letter of thanks was received by GM Crabbs from Delegate Reilly expressing her gratitude for the assistance and flexibility during the legislative session; everyone's contribution is appreciated.

GM Crabbs is investigating options to have the Board room web cam capable.

License holder at Brightview Assisted Living Facility (ALF) expressed to Chief Inspector Buchler that he has noticed he is the only licensed ALF in the county. The inspectors compiled a list of 53 licensed ALFs in the county and of 18 establishments they have visited 11 do not serve alcohol, 3 are no longer operational, and the 4 that do serve alcoholic beverages were provided application information.

ADJOURNMENT

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



Wayne S. Goddard, Chair



Mary Sporre, Secretary

**RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
2024 - 2025**

RENEWALS TO BE APPROVED			
		Individual/Corporation/L.L.C. Name	Trade Name
1	1	Acappella, LLC	Acappella Italian Restaurant
2	2	Battery Island Brewing Co., L.L.C.	Battery Island Brewing
3	3	Blue Moon Investments, Inc.	Bel Air Liquors
4	4	CBOCS MD 1, L.L.C.	Cracker Barrel
5	5	EBAN. L.L.C.	Mucho Gusto
6	6	Harford Restaurant Corporation	Silver Spring Mining Company
7	7	Karma Belcamp, L.L.C.	The Brass Tap
8	8	Naughty Dogs, LLC	Naughty Dogs Pub and Grill
9	9	P.J.C., Inc.	Ice House Liquors
10	10	Rajkamal, Inc.	Sizzling Bombay
11	11	RJM Liquors, Inc.	North Harford Liquors
12	12	Saubel's Market, L.L.C.	Saubel's
13	13	Tankard Restaurant & Lounge, Inc.	Fisherman's Catch
14	14	Whiteford's Beer, Wine & Spirits, L.L.C.	Whiteford's Beer, Wine & Spirits
15	15	Wining Out, L.L.C.	The Vineyard Wine Bar
16	16	Woodbridge Liquor Mart, L.L.C.	Woodbridge Liquors