



BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

City Hall, 718 Main Street

Fitchburg MA 01420

(978) 829-1820

FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

Jun 08 2021 12:16 pm

Daniel Sarefield, Chairman

Richard Boscardin

John Zarrella

MINUTES OF MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of License Commissioners was held on June 7, 2021 over the Zoom meeting platform, and called to order by Commissioner Sarefield at 6:01 PM. Commissioners Boscardin was present and Commissioner Zarrella joined the meeting shortly afterwards. FPD Liaison Lieutenant Howe was present.

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

The minutes of May 17, 2021 were approved by unanimous consent 3/0.

II. APPLICATIONS

SOLICITOR: Christopher Shivo, JSP Tree and Landscape, 601 Fitchburg State Road

Mr. Shivo was not present for the meeting. Commissioner Sarefield entered the following information received from Councilor Samantha Squailia, regarding the license:

*I would like to submit a public comment regarding the application for
SOLICITOR: Christopher Shivo, JSP Tree and Landscape, 601 Fitchburg State Road*

I would like to note to the license commission that I have seen a dozen or more JSP Tree and Landscaping signs stapled to telephone poles all across the city of Fitchburg.

I would like the company to acknowledge that any attachments to poles must be reviewed and approved in writing by the pole owners before being hung, and in addition, the massive postering of the city with these advertising signs on utility poles make our city look unattractive and unkempt.

I would urge the license commission prior to granting this license to demand to the applicant that they go around the city and remove all such signage, and utilize legal and approved methods of advertising their business. Thank you.

As the applicant was not present, Motion to continue application to the next meeting on June 21st was approved by unanimous consent 3/0.

PEDDLER: Jodi Ann Davick, 444 Westminster Hill Road, Fitchburg
Kimberly Jones, 38 Upland Ave, Lunenburg

The Clerk will process these applications in the Office and reach out to the applicants directly.

Zen Den Studios and Upper Common, 923 Main Street, for live acoustic music, live amplified music, DJ, on Saturday, August 21, 2021 (Rain date August 28, 2021)

Mr. Merrick Henry, CEO of Zen Den Studios was present at the meeting. Mr. Henry noted that the actual times of the event should be 6PM – 10 PM, with setup at 4PM. Lieutenant Howe noted that due to where the event was taking place, it would be better for the time to be amended to 9PM. Mr. Henry agreed.

Commissioner Sarefield asked Mr. Henry to estimate the number of attendees. Mr. Henry noted that they expected about forty (40) people to attend the event.

Motion to approve the amended application for 4PM to 9PM was approved by unanimous roll call vote 3/0.

Ipanema Productions, Inc., Fitchburg Municipal Airport, 567 Crawford Street, for Sunday Entertainment Permit, for live acoustic music, live amplified music, DJ, rodeo, on Sunday, August 15, 2021 (Rain date August 22, 2021) and September 26, 2021.

Ipanema Productions, Inc., Fitchburg Municipal Airport, 567 Crawford Street, for Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverages license from 11AM to 9PM, on Sunday August 15, 2021 (Rain date August 22, 2021) for 4,000 people and Sunday, September 26, 2021 for 3,000 people at Fitchburg Municipal Airport, nearby the stage.

Mr. Carlos Silva, President of Ipanema Productions, was present at the meeting. He explained that the rodeo and even would take place as in prior years, with the cooperation of the local Police Department. Lieutenant Howe noted that a command post would be set up to deal with the expected large crowd capacity and they would have Fire Department/EMS support, as well.

Commissioner Sarefield reminded Mr. Silva that as the entertainment permit was until 9PM, last call should be at 8:30 PM and that the music should also be turned off at that time, as well. Mr. Silva stated that this would be taken care of.

Motion to approve the application for an entertainment license for the stated dates was approved by unanimous roll call vote 3/0.

Motion to approve the application for one day special one-day all alcohol license for the stated dates was approved by unanimous roll call vote 3/0.

St. Bernard's School, 254 Summer Street, for Monday through Saturday Entertainment Permit for Carnival with amusement rides, games, food, June 24 and 25, 6PM – 10:30 PM; June 26, 1PM-10:30 PM.

St. Bernard's School, 254 Summer Street, for Sunday Entertainment Permit for Carnival with amusement rides, games, food, June 27, 1PM-10:30 PM.

Mr. John Flynn, owner of Fiesta Shows, was present at the meeting. Mr. Flynn stated that the carnival would be run as had been in prior years, with additional gates to control crowd capacity and help with estimation of attendance numbers.

Motion to approve the application for an entertainment license for the stated dates was approved by unanimous roll call vote 3/0.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Email regarding Extension of Premises

The Clerk informed the Commission that the correspondent was unable to attend the meeting due to a family matter.

A discussion regarding a possible letter to be sent to pouring establishments, letting them know of the possibility of applying for an Alternation of Premises. It was agreed by the Commission that, if possible, applicants would apply once so that any portion of a property that a licensee planned to use would be part of the permanent license, including dates of use, so that it could be renewed from year to year.

The Clerk will draft a letter to provide this information to licensees, and forwarded to the Commission for their approval.

IV. NEW BUSINESS –

Commissioner Boscardin noted that at the recent ABCC meeting, they had mentioned that their Office would be starting spot inspections of licensees to ensure adherence to ID checks. He questioned whether this would be done by the Commission, as well. Commissioner Sarefield noted that he would investigate whether any grant funds were available to cover the costs to do so.

The Clerk noted that one licensee had asked whether fees for a license could be waived as they had paid in the prior year, but were unable to use the license due to the covid regulations promulgated by the State.

It was agreed by the Commission that research should be done to provide any and all assistance to licensees, wherever possible, as long as the impact would not be borne by the City.

The Clerk will reach out to the Auditor’s Office and other Departments for more clarification and report back to the Commission.

Regarding returning to “in person” meetings, an alternate meeting room location will be considered.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary de Alderete, City Clerk

Approved:



Daniel Sarefield, Chair



Richard Boscardin



John Zarrella