

**Queen Anne's County Liquor Board
Minutes of Meeting**

February 7, 2017

The Board of License Commissioners of Queen Anne's County met on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at 110 Vincit St., Centreville, MD. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John D. Reid. Those present were: John D. Reid, Chairman; John McQueeney, Richard Ciccarelli and Gene Ransom, Esq., Members; Crystal Richard, Esq., Attorney for the Board; Cathy Maxwell, Clerk to the Board; and Bill Council, Liquor Inspector. Member Maurice Dashiell was absent.

The Minutes from the January 3, 2017 Liquor Board meeting were approved as written.

The following Special/Temporary licenses were reviewed and approved:

The Go-Getters, Inc. – Date of event – February 10
Kent Island Estates Community Assoc. – Date of event – February 10
Q. A. Co. Chamber of Commerce – Date of event – February 16
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center – Date of event – March 10
Queen Anne/Hillsboro Vol. Fire Co. – Date of event – March 11
Corsica River Yacht Club – Date of event – March 11
Animal Resource Foundation (ARF) – Date of event – March 12
Queen Anne's Co. Young Farmers – Date of event – March 17

The Board reviewed an application for advertising the expansion of premises for a Class "B" beer, wine & liquor license for Jennifer L. Brown, for the benefit of O' Shucks Irish Pub, LLC, trading as O' Shucks Irish Pub, located at 118 N. Commerce St., Centreville, MD 21617. Ms. Jennifer Brown appeared before the Board. Ms. Richard stated for the record that her office represents O' Shucks Irish Pub so when the public hearing scheduled, the County Attorney, Patrick Thompson, Esq., will be requested to attend the hearing. Ms. Brown said she would like to expand her business to the parking lot behind the restaurant. The Board had previously given her permission to hold a fund raiser there and she would like to continue doing this. This parking lot is owned by Jeffrey Thompson, Esq. so he would be signing off as landlord for the use of it. Mr. McQueeney asked if the Town of Centreville has an ordinance that does not allow alcohol outside of the building. Mr. Council said he has spoken with Mr. Steve Walls, Town Manager. Mr. Council said O' Shucks also wanted to expand in front of the restaurant to the sidewalk as it was thought that the street would be widened with the sidewalk but that was voted down by the Town. Also having alcoholic beverages on the sidewalk was voted down. Ms. Richard said the front sidewalk is Town property and Ms. Brown is talking about the parking lot which is private property. Ms. Brown said she only plans to expand to the rear parking lot. Ms. Richard said her office will be discussing this expansion with Steve Walls, although she does not see why the Town would have an interest in a private parking lot. Ms. Richard said there

will be a lease agreement between O' Shucks and Mr. Jeff Thompson and there will be a limit on the number of events. Ms. Brown said she anticipates having no more than six events a year. Mr. Ransom made a motion, seconded by Mr. McQueeney, to approve this application for advertising. All members voted in favor. A public hearing on this application will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017.

The Board held a hearing for the transfer of Class "A" Beer, Wine & Liquor license from Chisun Choe to Abhi Rajendra Viradia, for the benefit of Satyam, Inc., trading as Kent Towne Liquors, located at 201 Kent Towne Market, Chester, MD 21619. Mr. Viradia and his attorney, Joseph McQueeney, Esq., appeared before the Board. Member John McQueeney recused himself as he is the father of Joseph McQueeney, Esq. Ms. Richard administered the oath to all who were to testify. No one appeared in opposition to this application. Mr. Joseph McQueeney submitted the necessary documents and asked that these be admitted as Applicant's Exhibit No. 1. Ms. Richard confirmed that the newly submitted Resolution meets the requirements the Board had previously requested. Mr. Viradia is the sole officer of Satyam, Inc. and owner owns 75% interest in the company. Mr. McQueeney reviewed the criteria of §4-210 of the Alcoholic Beverages Code, factors for issuing a license, and said the applicant meets the requirements. Mr. Viradia said this transfer will not have any adverse effect on other existing licensees. He sells a brand of wine that is not sold in other local stores. A motion was made by Mr. Ransom, seconded by Mr. Ciccarelli, to approve the transfer of this license. All members voted in favor.

The Board held a hearing for a new Class "B" beer license for Joshua Shonts, for the benefit of JPG Foods, LLC, trading as Smoke Rattle and Roll, located at 419 Thompson Creek Rd., Stevensville, MD 21666. Mr. Joshua Shonts appeared before the Board. Ms. Richard administered the oath to all who were to testify. No one appeared in opposition to this application. Mr. Jacob Heimbuch from the Bull and Goat Brewery in Centreville, MD said he was in favor of the application. Mr. Shonts said his business started off as a food truck. He's now at the Brick & Mortar in Stevensville, MD. He has been in business for over 2 months and now would like to sell beer for his patrons. He seats between 20-25 people inside but most of the business is carry out. There will be no outside seating. Ms. Richard reviewed the criteria of §4-210 of the Alcoholic Beverages Code, factors for issuing a license. Mr. Shonts said there is no other similar restaurant in the area and he has been supported by the community. He does not feel this license will have an adverse effect on other existing licenses. Luke's Grill is nearby but they sell beer, wine and liquor and Mr. Shonts is selling beer only. No other business in the area is selling this type of food, being barbeque and Mexican style. There is adequate parking. His store is open 11:00-8:00 p.m. Sunday thru Thursday and 11:00-9:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Mr. Shonts and Gary Hash are the members of the company, JPG Foods, LLC. Ms. Richard said for an LLC, Mr. Shonts will need a Resolution stating that he is the one authorized to hold the license because there are less than 3 members. The Board may approve the application contingent upon receipt of the Resolution. Mr. Shonts has completed the TIPS training program. Ms. Richard marked the previously submitted exhibits collectively as Applicant's Exhibit No. 1. A motion was made by Mr. McQueeney, seconded by Mr. Ciccarelli, to approve a new Class "B" beer license, contingent upon receipt of an authorization from the members allowing Mr. Shonts to hold the license. All members voted in favor.

The Board reviewed an application for advertising a new Class "D" beer, wine & liquor license for Jacob Heimbuch and Jeffrey Putman, for the benefit of Bull and Goat Brewery, LLC, trading as Bull and Goat Brewery, located at 204 Banjo Lane, Unit E, Centreville, MD 21617. Mr. Heimbuch appeared before the Board. He said this was originally a partnership but this has been changed to an LLC since Mr. Heimbuch lives in Caroline Co. Mr. Putman has been a resident of Queen Anne's Co. for at least two years. Ms. Richard asked if either Mr. Heimbuch or Mr. Putman hold another license and Mr. Heimbuch said his father has a winery in Anne Arundel Co. that he owns 5% ownership but he does not hold the license. Ms. Richard said the Code says you cannot be financially interested in another business in Queen Anne's Co. and you also cannot hold more than one license in the State of Md. Mr. Ransom requested that Mr. Heimbuch make it clear for the record at the public hearing in March exactly what interest he has in other licenses so there will be no conflict. Mr. Heimbuch and Mr. Putman hold a Class "5" brewery license and a Class "7" distribution license. Ms. Richard said this is not the same license that is currently pending legislation, that is for distilleries. A motion was made by Mr. Ransom, seconded by Mr. Ciccarelli, to approve this application for advertising. All members voted in favor. A public hearing on this application will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017. NOTE: Mr. Heimbuch came to the office on February 8, 2017 and amended and initialed the application to be for "Beer" only.

Mr. Warren Wright, Drug Free Coalition, appeared before the Board. He said he was interested in the status of the pending legislation concerning duties of liquor inspector. He would be available to support these bills when they are heard in Annapolis.

Bill Council, Liquor Inspector, did 74 inspections for January. No violations were found. Mr. Council discussed the Class "B" beer license of the Queen Anne's Bowling Lanes which is now expired because the business is closed. The building is now for sale. Mr. Council questioned §27-1503 of the Code which states that bowling establishments must have over 30 lanes and automatic pinsetters. The subject bowling alley has 24 lanes. He wanted to make sure a new buyer would qualify for a liquor license. Ms. Richard said if the building is sold, they can come in for a restaurant license. This section applies to multiple licenses, which would be a restaurant and bowling facility at the same location. So if the building was sold, the new owner could apply for a restaurant license.

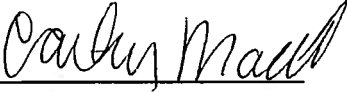
Mr. Ransom discussed pending legislation for liquor inspector duties and Class "9" distillery licenses as he attended the public hearing held by the Co. Commissioners on January 24, 2017. The Commissioners approved both Bills the way this Board originally approved it. They did not feel comfortable with the changes the distilleries were suggesting. The distillery bill and the inspector bill are set for hearing on February 20, 2017 in Annapolis.

The Board discussed the renewal application and process. Ms. Richard has added additional language to the application and cover letter for clarity. The application has been amended to include any changes to the ownership of an LLC and any changes from the original application. A paragraph was added to the cover letter concerning the Board's right to hold a public hearing.

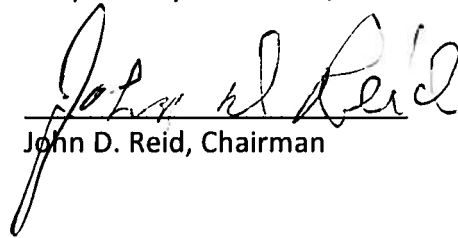
She suggested that the Board could make a policy at the March hearing every year to decide who they may want to bring in at renewal. Otherwise they may have to hold a special meeting due to time constraints. The Board could add a rule and regulation that says, "the notice timeframe will be 10 days in advance of the renewal". At present there are no problems with any license holders. If there is an ongoing problem with a license holder during any year, this can be addressed at renewal. Ms. Richard also added a sentence at the end of the cover letter regarding applicants picking up their license after the April 30th deadline.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Reid to meet again on Tuesday, March 7, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Maxwell, Clerk



John D. Reid, Chairman