

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

**June 1, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

The Board of License Commissioners of Queen Anne's County held an "in person" with virtual/zoom option, provided by QA TV, on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joyce E. Jones, Esq. Those present were: Joyce E. Jones, Esq., Chairman; Thomas E. Beery, Vice- Chairman; John T. McQueeney, Timothy G. Hibbard and Gene M. Ransom, III, Esq., Members; Tom Calmon, Liquor Inspector; Cathy Maxwell, Clerk to the Board; Jeffrey E. Thompson, Esq., Attorney for the Board; and John Shelton, Planning Dept., operating Zoom.

The May 4, 2021 and May 11, 2021 Minutes and the May, 2021 Monthly Report from Tom Calmon, Liquor Inspector, were approved.

The following Special Temporary Licenses were approved:

Maryland Recreation & Parks Assoc. (MRPA) – date of event – July 21 – Conquest Beach
Kent Island Vol. Fire Dept. – date of event -September 11 – Cash Bash
Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church – date of event – September 18 – Crab Feast

The Board reviewed for advertising an application for a new Class "A" beer, wine & liquor license for Amandeep K. Hundal, for the benefit of Ekonkar, LLC, trading as Wye Mills Beer, Wine & Spirits, located at 212 Grange Hall Rd., Queenstown, MD 21658. Christopher Drummond, Esq. appeared before the Board on behalf of the applicant. He said the application has not yet been signed by the property owner. An amendment to the lease agreement has also not been signed by the property owner. However, he said the property owner drafted the amendment to the lease on behalf of the LLC. He would like to move forward with advertising. Mr. Thompson said the application and lease agreement will have to be signed by the property owner before it can be advertised. Mr. Thompson said the Articles of Organization states the purpose of the LLC is to operate a "fast food restaurant". Mr. Drummond will amend this. Mr. Thompson said the Operating Agreement may need to be amended also. Mr. Drummond said the applicants have sub-leased the area where the liquor store is proposed, where the Subway has been for the last 10 years. There are two separate entrances. The Board will hold a public hearing on this application on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, pending receipt of the required documents by the advertising deadline, which is Friday, June 11, 2021.

The Board reviewed for advertising a new Class "A" Beer and Wine license for Monika Pal, for the benefit of Myra 1, Inc. trading as GO Mart, located at 741 Main St., Church Hill, MD 21623. Mr. Thompson said the paperwork was in order. The Board will hold a public hearing on this application on Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

Mr. Warren Wright, Drug Free Coalition, appeared before the Board, via zoom. He proposes to make new signs showing the weekly alcohol over doses or deaths because those numbers are very similar to heroin.

The Board discussed Governor Hogan's Order not to charge restaurants and clubs a delivery permit fee but still allows liquor stores to be charged. This Board charges liquor stores \$120 annually for the delivery permit. Ms. Jones asked if there is a rational basis for charging one and not the other. Mr. Ransom said he thinks the rationale is that liquor stores have done well during the pandemic and restaurants have not. Delivery charges have been suspended during the state of emergency. Mr. Ransom suggested that the Board discuss this in more detail at the July 6, 2021 meeting and to ask what some of the other counties are doing. He said the version of the statute that finally passed, effective July 1, 2021, gave the power to the liquor boards, whether to opt in or opt out. Mr. Ransom will obtain a copy of the statute for discussion at the July meeting.

The Board held a hearing for a new Class "D" beer, wine & liquor license for Jacob Heimbach and Jeffrey Putman, for the benefit of Bull and Goat Brewery, LLC, trading as Bull and Goat Brewery, located at 206 Banjo Lane, Centreville, MD 21617. Mr. Heimbach and Mr. Putman appeared before the Board. All necessary paperwork has been filed. The applicants currently have a Class "D" beer license. Mr. Thompson administered the oath to all who were to testify. No one appeared in opposition to this application. Ms. Jones reviewed § 4-210 of the Alcoholic Beverages Code, approval or denial of license application. The applicants are aware that there must be someone on premises at all times with current alcohol awareness training. All employees will be certified. They intend to open up beyond what the State allows them to serve and get a full tavern license. Their goal is to increase the quality and the product they offer. They would like to bring in some local Maryland wines and high-end cocktails. They do not believe they will have a negative impact on current license holders in the area. They have no intention of competing with nearby restaurants and have discussed their plans with them. They distill their own spirits. What they intend to serve is unique and is probably not served anywhere else in the County. Their hours are from 3-9:00 p.m. through the week, 2-9:00 p.m. on Saturdays. They do not intend to change these hours. They have ample parking. Mr. Beery asked the applicants what their State license allows them to rectify. They said they do not have a rectifying still, they have a copper pot still. Mr. Thompson said the Operating Agreement needs to be amended. He said it states that the purpose of the Agreement is to brew and sell beer. He said the Articles of Incorporation may need to be amended also. A motion was made by Mr. Hibbard, seconded by Mr. Ransom, to approve this license, pending receipt of the amended documents prior to issuance of the license. All members voted in favor.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned, to meet again on Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Mall
Clerk

/s/ Gene M. Ransom, III, Esq.
Chairman

