

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

**July 6, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

The Board of License Commissioners of Queen Anne's County met on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gene M. Ransom, III, Esq. Those present were: Gene M. Ransom, III, Esq., Chairman; John T. McQueeney, Timothy G. Hibbard and Charles W. Ferrar, Members; Tom Calmon, Liquor Inspector; Cathy Maxwell, Clerk to the Board; Jeffrey E. Thompson, Esq., Attorney for the Board; Amy Moredock, Director of Planning & Zoning; and Vivian Swinson, Zoning Administrator. Vice-Chairman Thomas E. Beery was absent.

Mr. Ransom introduced new Member, Charles (Chuck) Ferrar.

The June 1, 2021 Minutes and the June, 2021 Monthly Report from Tom Calmon, Liquor Inspector, were approved.

The following Special Temporary Licenses were approved:

Kent Island Estates Community Assoc. – date of event – July 9

Kinera Foundation, Inc. (in partnership with Foundation Island Yoga) – date of event – July 9

Corsica River Yacht Club – dates of event – July 23, 24, 25

FCSI Educational Foundation – date of event – August 4

Sudlersville Vol. Fire Co. – date of event – August 7

Mr. Warren Wright, Drug Free Coalition, appeared before the Board. September 1st begins "QA Goes Purple" in Centreville. This is the third year for this event. Mr. Wright passed out information to the Board regarding the impact of the continuation of sale and delivery of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. He said concerning public health and safety, this provides temptation for people on the way home. It provides greater access to alcohol for the underage, causing a chance for having a car accident. There is also a chance of increasing domestic violence and overdose deaths. Maryland reported 2300 alcohol related deaths in 2019. 262 Queen Anne's Co. residents that were charged with driving under the influence in 2020, according to the Md. State Police and Sheriff's Office. A survey of County teenage students showed that 22% said they drove with a driver who had been drinking. The State average is 15%. 8% of the students, about 200, said they drove while drinking. The State average is 5%. 28% of high school students, about 650, said they had drunk alcohol at least once during the last 30 days. The State average is about half of that. He said this Board is forbidden in the new legislation that just passed from charging local businesses for the needed extra supervision. At a recent MALA conference, law enforcement and alcohol licensing boards reported an increase in alcohol abuse in violation hearings, impaired driving and non-compliance. Baltimore City and Baltimore Co. have both put a pause on implementing continuation of the statute. The State of Md. has ordered an impact study to be completed by

the end of next year. In 2020, alcohol related fatalities were 38,680, the highest since 2007. Montgomery Co. found that over half of all ID's were not checked when filling carry-out orders. He said this Board is not a board that relaxes rules when local consequences/compliances are not in place. DFC recently wrote an article in the Record Observer in response to a comment made by a marijuana retailer. They said, "in Queen Anne's Co. it is all about guns, pot and alcohol". Part of Mr. Wright's response was that Queen Anne's Co. retailers are part of the community, they live here, support the kids, schools and community groups like the DFC. Mr. Ransom said he has discussed this with a couple of the Co. Commissioners and it was suggested that this Board just extend the Emergency Order until the first Tuesday in October, 2021 and then have the Drug Free Coalition work with the Commissioners and others about what to do in the long run. Whether to eliminate it or make additional regulations. He said one of the concerns is the sudden stoppage that would occur as the Order runs out and how that would affect businesses and how to adjust for that. Mr. Wright said he would rather see this Board deal with it instead of doing a study in a year. He feels the businesses in Queen Anne's Co. are responsible people. Mr. Ransom said it is important to him that this Board has a collaborative relationship with the Co. Commissioners and Co. staff.

The Board reviewed an expansion request for Brooks McNew & Jesse McNew – Cult Classic Brewing. This request must first receive approval from Planning & Zoning. Ms. Vivian Swinson appeared before the Board. She said currently Cult Classic has several outstanding items that they need to correct for the Fire Marshal. There is a propane tank sitting in the middle of where they want to do their outdoor seating. These issues must be corrected before Ms. Swinson will approve the requested expansion. Mr. Ransom said this can be continued at the August meeting. Mr. Rohry Flood, Manager of Cult Classic, appeared before the Board. He said he has been corresponding with Ms. Swinson and hopes to have the issues corrected in the next couple of weeks. He said they have about four events upcoming in the next six weeks alone that are already ticketed and involve the outdoor space. Mr. Thompson said an expansion of premises has to be advertised for a public hearing. Mr. Flood requested that the six scheduled dates be considered for special events approval to use the western lot. Mr. Ransom asked Ms. Swinson about the Board approving a temporary permit with the current conditions. She said currently the Fire Marshal does not want her to do anything until at least the propane tank is fixed and there is an exhaust fan that is overtop a loading dock that is a violation of the fire code and needs to be corrected. Ms. Swinson said she does not see this as a "special event", the property is zoned commercial so they can expand their business. Mr. Thompson asked if we are expanding the license permanently or is it for special events? Ms. Moredock said this falls under the purview of a typical temporary event that is permitted. Mr. Thompson said Cult Classic will need to file an application to expand the premises and it needs to be advertised. Due to time constraints, they can advertise "at their own risk". There will be a public hearing on the expansion request at the August 3, 2021 meeting. Mr. Ransom asked if the Board feels comfortable with giving Cult Classic temporary permission for their scheduled July 30 and 31 scheduled events, as long as Planning & Zoning approves. Ms. Swinson said she is comfortable with this. Mr. Ransom said the Board can give Cult Classic temporary approval to do a one-time event, contingent on Planning & Zoning approval. The second thing is that

Cult Classic will have to file an application for the permanent expansion by this Friday in order for it to be considered for a hearing at the August 3 meeting. Mr. Ransom suggested that Cult Classic may need legal assistance but it is their decision. Concerning the farmer's market on Cult Classic's premises, Ms. Swinson said this came under a temporary permit. In any zoning district you are allowed to do a farmer's market for 180 days per year. That is a separate use from the brewery and the bar. Mr. Thompson said Cult Classic will be filing an application to expand their licensed premises to include the parking lot. Mr. Ransom said Cult Classic was working under the Governor's Emergency Order where this was allowed and there was no knowledge that the Order would be pulled in such a short time frame. Mr. Thompson said in the future, businesses need to be aware not to plan events without permission from this Board. A motion was made by Mr. Hibbard, seconded by Mr. Ferrar, to allow Cult Classic to have a temporary license for events on July 30 and July 31, 2021, subject to the approval of Planning & Zoning. All members voted in favor. Cult Classic has agreed to move forward with the application for expansion without the need for review for advertising. The Board had no objection to this request.

The Board reviewed for advertising the transfer of a Class "B" beer, wine & liquor license from Larry Lauderbach to Walter Petrie, for the benefit of Bay Bridge Marina Waterfront Properties, LLC, trading as Hemingways, located at 357 Pier One Rd., Stevensville, MD 21666. Mr. Petrie and Joseph A. Stevens, Esq., appeared before the Board. Mr. Thompson said there are a lot of companies involved. Mr. Petrie is the trustee of an irrevocable trust so he is the right person to appear before this Board. Mr. Thompson said the concern is there is also a management agreement whereby the management entity is to get a percentage of sales. Historically, this Board has been mindful with leases, for example, that the landlords not participate on a percentage basis in the sale of alcohol. Mr. Stevens said he wanted to explain the situation to the Board prior to the public hearing on August 3. Mr. Petrie is purchasing Bay Bridge Marina/Hemingways. The entire complex has been somewhat in disrepair for several years. Mr. Petrie is doing a major renovation and redevelopment of the property that includes the restaurant. Mr. Petrie is the sole owner of the restaurant and he is the principal majority shareholder in both companies. He has established a management agreement where he has all the principal control as the owner. He controls all liquor licenses and bank accounts. He purchases the food and pays all liquor license taxes. The management company does not touch any of that but is compensated on a percentage of revenue at the restaurant. There is a three-year agreement and Mr. Petrie can then bring in someone else after three years. Mr. Stevens believes that the management company in this structure, although they are compensated on a small percentage, does not have a financial interest per se under the Code. He said this is a gray area and he wanted to clarify to the Board before the hearing. Mr. Thompson said under §4-109 of the Alcoholic Beverages Code states, under Item 16, "during the term of the license, a person other than the applicant will not have a financial interest in the license". Mr. Thompson said he has discussed this with Mr. Stevens and they defined financial interest as being something over 50%. He said this Board will have to determine what the term "financial interest" means. Mr. Stevens is saying that the 4-8% doesn't elevate itself to an amount that would be considered a financial interest. Mr. Petrie said this is a third-party management. He

owns shopping centers and he has third party managers who manage the shopping center. They get a percentage of the gross. He said they don't get a "piece of the action" or own any portion of it, it is an incentive for them to do more business. This application will have a public hearing on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

The Board held a public hearing for 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. Ms. Monika Pal and her Attorney, Joseph McQueeney, Esq. appeared before the Board. Member John McQueeney recused himself as he is the father of Joseph McQueeney. Mr. Thompson administered the oath to all who were to testify. All necessary paperwork has been filed. Mr. Thompson advised Mr. McQueeney that since Mr. Beery is absent today, he will need all three remaining members to vote in favor of this application and that he has the option to postpone the hearing. Mr. McQueeney said he is comfortable moving forward today. Mr. McQueeney submitted a petition containing approx. 422 signatures in support of the application. He also submitted today an additional approx. 50 signatures in support. Mr. Thompson entered the application and exhibits as Applicant's Exhibit No. 1. The petition of signatures in support was entered as Applicant's Exhibit No. 2. There was no objection to the submission of these exhibits. Ms. Pal has never had a Class "A" license to sell alcohol in Queen Anne's Co. She has had a Class "B" license for a restaurant. Her business in Church Hill MD is called Go Mart. It is a convenience store and candy store. They have a full menu with salads, sandwiches, smoothies. She tries to carry the products her customers ask for. It has been open a year in August. She owns 100% of Myra 1, Inc. There are no other shareholders, directors or officers. She is the only authorized person for the purpose of applying and holding a liquor license on behalf of Myra 1, Inc. No one else has any financial interest in the company. Mr. McQueeney reviewed § 4.210 of the Alcoholic Beverages Code, approval or denial of license application. Ms. Pal said she believes there is a public need and desire for the license. Her customers always ask if she has beer or wine when they come in to purchase food. She said everyone who came in the store wanted to sign the petition of support for the license so they would not have to make multiple stops to pick up beer and wine. The closest other license in Church Hill is Rhodes Store which is approx. ½ mile away from her store. She does not feel that this license will have negative effect on Rhodes Store. A lot of her customers come off of Md. Rt. 213. If a customer asks where is the nearest gas station, she refers them to Rhodes Store. She said alcohol will not be the predominant source of revenue for her store. She said her store is unique from Rhodes Store because Go Mart offers a full menu. Christopher Drummond, Esq., representing Rhodes Store, appeared before the Board. He said it's the commonality of the offerings under the license, not whether you sell roast beef vs. ham. Mr. Ransom said the Board will take that into consideration. Ms. Pal said people who come into her store come to buy food. When you walk into Rhodes Store, you see mainly liquor and the deli is to the back. Rhodes Store sells beer, wine and liquor. She is only requesting beer and wine. She does not feel this license would have any negative impact on the community. She has adequate parking. She has completed alcohol awareness training. She knows there must be someone on premises at all times with the training. Mr. Drummond questioned the Stock Transfer Agreement which was entered as Applicant's Exhibit No. 3. He said according to the documents on file with the

application, there wasn't stock actually issued to Mr. Sharma so that Mr. Sharma could transfer it to Ms. Pal. He said the lease agreement in the file is signed by Mr. Sharma on behalf of Myra 1, Inc. Ms. Pal said there will be a new lease agreement. Mr. Drummond said Myra 1, Inc. is not in good standing with the Dept. of Assessments and Taxation. Ms. Pal said it has been filed. Mr. Drummond entered as Opposition Exhibit No. 1 was a document titled, "Annual Report/Personal Property Tax Filings" for Myra 1, Inc. Opposition Exhibit No. 2 was a list of signatures in opposition to this application. Mr. Drummond said an application for Go Mart for a Class "A" beer and wine license was before this Board in September, 2020 and was denied. He asked Ms. Pal if the traffic on Md. Rt. 213 has increased materially since that time and she said she was not sure. He asked her if there has been a significant increase in population in the Church Hill zip code since September, 2020 and she said she is not aware of that but she sees an increase in customers coming to the store. She said she does not intend to be a liquor store like Rhodes Store and she will not sell gasoline. Mr. Drummond asked her what has changed since September, 2020. She said she is at the store 99% of the time, she is a mother and a responsible person. Mr. Drummond asked her what has changed in the community since September, 2020 that would justify this Board in changing its mind about whether this license should be issued. She said she has a different menu for the food that they offer. Mr. McQueeney asked Ms. Pal what has changed concerning public need and desire for this license. She said at the September, 2020 hearing, no one attended to testify in favor of the application for this license. Today there are several people attending to testify in favor. She feels the desire for the license has increased since September, 2020. The customers are always asking about beer and wine. The food at Go Mart is carryout, there is no indoor seating.

Mr. Jeffrey Wayne Hahn, 118 Dabbling Court, Church Hill, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He said he frequents Go Mart and Rhodes Store. He served this country for 25 years in the Army and 20 years in the Fire Dept. He believes every family should have the American dream and same opportunities. He feels that Rhodes Store will not be affected by this license because they serve more of the township, where Go Mart is closer to Rt. 213. He said Rt. 213 is basically a highway now. Rhodes Store has fuel so they will get the same amount of business. He does not feel there will be any negative impact on either store. He believes Go Mart should have the same opportunities to support their family as does Rhodes Store. He said Go Mart is not asking for liquor, just beer and wine. Concerning alcohol abuse, he said we need to educate our kids about alcohol use, not take businesses away. He said Go Mart is a great business with great food and they support the community and the County.

Mr. Joseph F. Sullivan, Jr., 1050 Burrsville Rd., Centreville, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He said Covid-19 has changed a lot of people's lives. He said Go Mart has a great business and he is there 4 or 5 times a week. The people at Go Mart are very friendly. If Go Mart had beer and wine he would only have to make one stop. He said people stop at this store because of the atmosphere. He said if there is a problem with the wording of any of the documents, he is sure it can be worked out. He asked the Board to give Go Mart a chance to better serve the community. He said Red Zone and Dominos are near each other in

Centreville and it depends on where you want to go. He feels this is similar to Go Mart and Rhodes Store.

Mr. Howard Dean, 321 Roberts Station Rd., Church Hill, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He said Go Mart does deliver and that is good for older citizens. He has friends as far away as Goldsboro and Barclay that come to Go Mart to get carry outs. He said traffic on Rt. 213 is getting heavier all the time. Go Mart has a very clean store and they are very friendly. He sees more people coming in all the time. Mr. Drummond asked Mr. Dean how far is the liquor store on Rt. 213 in Kingstown and Mr. Dean said about six miles. Draper Liquors in Centreville on Rt. 213 is approx. 12-14 miles. He asked Mr. Dean how many liquor stores are in Chestertown and Mr. Dean said he did not know. Mr. Dean said Go Mart is very easy to enter and park. He entered Go Mart's menu as Applicant's Exhibit No. 4.

Mr. George Kruhm, 209 E. Main St., Sudlersville, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He said he's been working in Church Hill since 2010 and there have been a lot of socio-economic improvements, the town has grown a lot. People are constantly moving from across the Bridge. He feels there is plenty of growth to support business.

Ms. Annetta Graves, 373 Hurtt Ave., Millington, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. She said Go Mart has very good customer service. They are very personable and welcoming and they try to get to know you by name.

Mr. Wayne Waters, 102 Hayden Ave., Church Hill, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He shops at Go Mart and they act like he is family. He said he worked for a major beer company for 34 years and you do not get rich selling beer. He said the people at Go Mart are decent people.

Mr. Frank Warmusky, 236 New St., Church Hill, MD appeared before the Board in favor of this application. He is walking distance from Go Mart. He is a peace corps volunteer and a retired University professor. He said we should be supporting the businesses in our community.

This concluded the testimony in favor of granting this application.

To clarify questions, Mr. McQueeney said Myraa, LLC is the property owner. Mr. Sharma signed the lease on behalf of Myra 1, Inc. Mr. McQueeney does not feel the lease needs to be updated now that the stock has been transferred to Ms. Pal.

Mr. Drummond, Ms. Dhara Patel, current license holder of Rhodes Store, and her Manager, Mr. Indy Patel, appeared before the Board. Mr. Drummond entered as Opposition Exhibit No. 2 a petition of signatures opposed to the granting of this application. The license for Rhodes Store was transferred to Ms. Patel in May, 2021. The company name is Shree Hari Om, LLC. Ms. Patel said she started the process of purchasing Rhodes Store last year. She said since Go Mart was denied last September, she proceeded to purchase Rhodes Store for \$2 million. She said

the fact that Go Mart was denied was very important with her decision to purchase Rhodes Store. If Go Mart had been approved, she would not have purchased Rhodes Store or paid the price that she paid. She said 20-25% of her sales are alcohol. Ms. Patel said she would not have committed to this significant investment if there had been another Class "A" license within a half mile of Rhodes Store. Having another license that close also affects her sales of food and gasoline. Mr. Patel said approx. 10-15% of the people who come to Rhodes Store are transient customers traveling Rt. 213. He said most people know the store is there since it has been there for over 50 years. Ms. Patel said there are two liquor stores in Centreville on Rt. 213 and one in Kingstown. She does not feel there is a need for another liquor store on Rt. 213 between Centreville and Chestertown. Ms. Patel sells hunting and fishing licenses at her store. When people buy these licenses, they may also purchase beer to take on their boats.

Mr. Ransom entered as Board's Exhibit No. 1 a letter submitted from the public opposing the application. Mr. McQueeney objected as he does not have an opportunity to cross examine the witness. Mr. Thompson said letters are given the same weight as petitions. Mr. Ransom overruled Mr. McQueeney's objection.

To clarify questions concerning the application filed by Go Mart, Mr. Thompson said Mr. Drummond suggested that Ms. Patel was not the stockholder at the time the application was filed. It wasn't until Mr. McQueeney brought forth the stock transfer which had a date on it that post-dated the application. Mr. Thompson said the stock transfer goes on to say that it was memorializing a transfer that had earlier taken place. Ms. Patel has testified the transfer transpired before she made the application.

In closing, Mr. McQueeney said Mr. Drummond raised a fair question and he appreciates that the Board recognizes that this is a new application. The owners of Rhodes Store are no longer the same owners that existed previously. He feels that the public desire for the Go Mart license has been readily addressed. The petition of support was over 470 signatures, plus people who appeared today to testify in favor. He said people want to minimize their travel when purchasing food and alcohol. If someone wants food at Go Mart, they want to purchase alcohol also. If someone goes to Rhodes Store to buy gasoline or hunting licenses, they want to purchase alcohol there. Mr. McQueeney said Rhodes Store operates their business well. They sell products that are not sold at Go Mart. Go Mart is simply trying to compete. If the Board were to deny this application, that would allow Rhodes Store to monopolize the alcohol sales market in the town of Church Hill and further insulate those businesses along Rt. 213 which Mr. McQueeney does not feel is necessary. He said if you asked any gas station if there is a need for another gas station, he doubts they would say, yes. This did not stop Royal Farms from buying the property right next to Kent Island Depot. He believes there is sufficient evidence to find that there is a public need and desire for this license and the impact on the existing license would be minimal based on the differences of products offered there in the one-stop-shop realm. He feels this license is appropriate to accommodate the public and no basis for this Board to deny the license. Mr. Drummond said this Board is like a Board of Appeals, a quasi-judicial administrative body. It is obliged to make findings of fact and based upon those

findings of facts come up with conclusions of law. There is in the law a concept of administrative res judicata, which essentially says that when matters are litigated or once resolved, they are not to be reconsidered when the facts haven't changed. Or that the passage of time is an insufficient basis to come to a decision that's inconsistent with a prior administrative decision. Mr. Drummond said that is the case here. This application was here in September, 2020 and Ms. Pal and Mr. Sharma came before the Board and said there was a public need and the public's convenience would be accommodated by a beer and wine license at Go Mart. This Board said no and denied the application. Mr. Drummond said nothing has changed since that time. He said If it has changed, Mr. McQueeney and his client did not prove it. It is unknown if there are more people in the Church Hill zip code or if traffic has increased on Rt. 213 since September 2020. He said there were witnesses who testified in favor of this application, only one who lives in the Church Hill zip code. He thinks this Board would want to see demographic information. If this Board votes in favor of the application, it would be what is known as an impermissible change of administrative mind. Mr. Drummond feels there are serious problems with the application filed. Ms. Pal signed the application under penalties of perjury that she was the owner of the entity for which the application is said to benefit. He said the impact of this license on Rhodes Store is not by itself grounds to deny the application. It is one of the considerations. He said there is no denying that this license will have a negative impact on Rhodes Store because it is so close. Is the testimony of six people in favor, only one who lives in the zip code, sufficient to prove that the convenience of the public will be improved by the issuance of this license. Mr. Drummond said it is not. He said the products Ms. Pal intends to sell are not unique. The Patels have spent a lot of money on Rhodes Store, in part reliant on what this Board did in September 2020. They have an economic expectation to be able to rely upon what this Board did in September when nothing significant has changed. Mr. Drummond urged the Board to deny the application. A motion was made by Mr. Hibbard, seconded by Mr. Ransom, to approve the license. Mr. Hibbard said he believes the community and the service to the community will dictate the service between the two businesses. He feels Rhodes Store clientele will remain their clientele and the same for Go Mart. And competition is a good thing. Mr. Ferrar said he wants to remind everyone that the product being discussed is alcohol. This Board is not concerned if there are 50 pizza shops in the town, but does care how many places sell alcohol. He feels one store selling alcohol in Church Hill is adequate. Mr. Ransom said the problem with Mr. Drummond's res judicata issue is that this is a different application and different person. He did not vote to approve the application in September 2020 because there were misstatements on the application which he felt were problematic. He feels the applicant has shown this time that there is a public need and desire for the license which wasn't shown last time. There was no support for the prior application with a different applicant. Mr. Ransom called for a roll call. Mr. Ferrar voted to deny the application as he does not feel there is a public need or desire for the license. Mr. Hibbard voted to approve the application. Mr. Ransom voted to approve the application. The application was denied for failure to have three votes.

The Board discussed the approval of the 2020-2021 license renewals. Mr. Ransom asked if there were concerns about any of the renewal applications. Mr. Calmon said he has a concern

about Carmines. A motion was made by Mr. Hibbard, seconded by Mr. McQueeney, to approve the license renewals. All members voted in favor. Mr. Ransom said the Board has received no petitions from anyone requesting that any license be considered for potential problems. The spreadsheet of pertinent information that Mr. Calmon has been using will be updated on a regular basis. Regarding Carmines, Mr. Calmon said there has been an ongoing problem with them providing a current alcohol awareness certificate. There is currently an investigation through the Comptroller's Office concerning a provider of an alcohol awareness program. A few other businesses who used the same provider have made efforts to obtain new alcohol awareness training with another verifiable provider. Carmines to date has not. Mr. Ransom said he would not object to Carmines having an "inquiry" hearing but he would not want to deny their license. He said this hearing can be put on the August 3, 2021 Agenda. Mr. Calmon will notify the licensee of the hearing.

Concerning the dates for the 2020-21 renewal licenses to be picked up and paid for, a motion was made by Mr. Ferrar, seconded by Mr. Hibbard, that the deadline will be August 15, 2021. All members voted in favor. Ms. Maxwell will notify all licensees of the deadline.

The Board discussed pending legislation. The Board received letters from Delegate Steven Arentz and the Maryland State Licensed Beverage Association concerning HB 12/SB 205, extending alcohol carryout/delivery privileges ("to go cups"). Mr. McQueeney said he has talked to the Delegation and a couple of the Co. Commissioners. He said the restaurants are not doing a lot of "to go cups" now like they were during the emergency. He thinks the restaurants would like to see this extended. A motion was made by Mr. McQueeney, seconded by Mr. Ferrar, to extend the emergency order allowing "to go cups" until October 1, 2021. All members voted in favor. Mr. Ransom said extending this until October 1, 2021 will give everyone time to have a discussion about it. The Board will plan to have a discussion with the Co. Commissioners, the Drug Free Coalition and the Licensed Beverage Association to work on a reasonable compromise on how to deal with this going forward. Mr. Ransom asked Ms. Amy Moredock if she would work with coordinating discussions between this Board and the Co. Commissioners. She agreed to this.

The Board discussed deliveries. There was no charge for deliveries during the Emergency Order which expired June 30, 2021. This will remain in effect until October 1, 2021. Businesses with Class "A" licenses are charged \$10 monthly for deliveries. There is currently no charge for Class "B" licenses. Ms. Moredock said deliveries is included in the legislation.

The Board discussed "return fee" requests. Mr. Ransom said the Co. Commissioners have stated that it was up to this Board's discretion and if a business had been hit hard during Covid, it was alright to consider a refund. Mr. Thompson said the memo he had sent out to the licensees said the Board would not consider requests for refunds until after the license is paid for.

The Board discussed coordinating with MALA (Maryland Alcohol Licensing Assoc.) Ms. Moredock has agreed to be the liaison and participate in phone conferences. She will also keep the Board advised of any pertinent pending legislation. Mr. Ransom said there will probably be a special session in December due to congressional redistricting. Not only will they be doing state redistricting at that session, it is also the session before an election. He said he suggests that this Board not request any new legislation during this session.

Mr. Ransom said in the future the Board will have one meeting a month. There will be special meetings if there is an extreme condition. All members were in agreement.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned, to meet again on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clerk

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