

LIQUOR AND LICENSE COMMISSION
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011

Chairman Hammerand called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. The following Commission members were present: John Hammerand, Chairman; Bob Bless; Diane Evertsen; John Jung; and Barb Wheeler. Also in attendance: Kenneth Koehler, County Board Chairman and Liquor Commissioner; Peter Austin, County Administrator; Jamie Rein and Sarah Jansen, State's Attorney's Office; and Lt. Ken Neilsen, McHenry County Sheriff's Department.

John Hammerand, Chairman
Bob Bless John Jung, Jr.
Diane Evertsen Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES: Mr. Jung made a motion, seconded by Ms. Evertsen, to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2011 Liquor and License Commission meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hearings on Liquor Ordinance Violations: None.

New Liquor License, Manager and/or Amusement License Requests: None.

Raffle Permit and Special Liquor License Requests:

Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jung, to review and vote on the four raffle permits and one special liquor license permit at the same time. This was unanimously approved by the Commission members present. Raffle permits reviewed were Main Stay Therapeutic Riding Program, Cary-Grove Jaycees, McHenry County Historical Society (June 30, 2011) and McHenry County Historical Society (October 26, 2011). The Commission reviewed an application for a Special Liquor License for the Rotary Club of Woodstock. Commission members reviewed the applications and noted all documents were completed and bond information provided. The motion carried with all members voting aye on a roll call vote (Bless, Evertsen, Jung, Wheeler and Hammerand).

OLD BUSINESS:

Pending Liquor Licenses: None.

Incident Reports: Ms. Rein reported that she received a copy of an Incident Report dated February 23, 2011 for a disturbance at the Snuggery Pub.

Update on Sting Operations: Ms. Haines informed the Commission members that JIYA 1, d/b/a Alden Grocery paid their \$500 fine for their recent liquor ordinance violation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

REPORTS TO COMMISSION: None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Ms. Haines informed the members that the camera currently being used to photograph new liquor license applicants is outdated and she cannot purchase film for it. She asked the members if they would prefer to have the County purchase a digital camera to be used to photograph new liquor license applicants, or do Commission

members want to require new applicants to supply their own color photograph. It was the consensus of the Commission to have the County purchase a digital camera to be used to photograph new liquor license applicants.

Chairman Hammerand mentioned that the Planning and Development Committee has been approached by an individual who would like to build a winery with a tasting room in the county. It was the consensus of the Commission to wait and see if the Planning and Development Committee grants them the ability to have a winery with a wine tasting room in a non-business area.

Commissioner Koehler mentioned that there is a local business owner who would like to hold a two-day concert (Friday and Saturday) in August at the McHenry County Fairgrounds. The business already has a liquor license from the City of Woodstock for their existing business, but because part of the fairgrounds are located in McHenry County, they would have to apply for a Special Liquor License. Ms. Rein mentioned that only non-for-profit associations or corporations, charitable groups, or religious corporations may apply for a Special Class "F" Liquor License. Members discussed the possibility of opening up the Class "F" Liquor License, or creating a new liquor license for already licensed establishments in order for them to obtain a special event license. Ms. Rein and Ms. Jansen indicated that further research would need to be done on this issue.

Chairman Hammerand reminded Commission members that the liquor license renewal period was approaching. All current liquor licenses will expire on April 30, 2011. Commission members discussed the possibility of having liquor license holders who have had prior liquor ordinance violations and/or police/incident reports appear before the Commission at a meeting. Ms. Rein stated that police/incident reports are processed through the Court's Civil Division and are not heard by the Commission. All liquor ordinance violations are written and issued by the McHenry County Liquor and License Commission and violators appear before the Commission for the violation.

Ms. Evertsen left the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

Commission members discussed which liquor license holders they want to meet with at upcoming meetings. Chairman Hammerand mentioned that Ms. Rein and Ms. Jansen will review the police/incident reports and liquor ordinance violation records for the previous five years, including this year, and will inform the Commission of their findings. Commission members may also suggest other establishments be called to appear before the Commission on a routine basis.

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business, Mr. Jung made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION/REVIEW:

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