

**BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND
MINUTES**

On January 9, 2019, the Board of License Commissioners met in Room 003/004 of the Carroll County Office Building, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Board members David Brauning, Chair; George Harmening and George Barnhart were present as well as Jo Vance, Administrative Hearings Coordinator; Assistant County Attorney Timothy Dixon, Counsel to the Board; and Keith Benfer, Senior Liquor Inspector.

10:00 a.m. the Board addressed the following official business:

1. **Case 6119**, An application for the transfer of location for a Class A – Beer, Wine and Liquor license issued to Mary Crushong for the use of the Village Store, LLC, t/a the Village Store, 6694 Middleburg Road, Keymar, Maryland 21757 in Election District 10. Mary Crushong and her husband appeared on behalf of the establishment. They explained that they had purchased the building at the new location which used to be called Crossroads Inn. The plan for the new building is to have the package goods store on one side of the building and to provide food and a small seating area on the other side of the building. The Board was concerned about the lack of division between the two areas but Ms. Crushong agreed to put a door between the restaurant area and the package goods store. However, the clientele would need to go to the package goods side of the building to access the restrooms. The Board agreed that this could be allowed when the applicants explained that anyone coming to the package goods side from the food side would be walking directly in front of the stores counter to go to the restrooms. The goal of the applicants is to be open in the new location by March 1, 2019. They do plan to open earlier at the new location because they will be in a traffic pattern that will significantly increase their breakfast business as people head to work. After further questioning and discussion, Mr. Harmening made a motion that the Board approve the application with the stipulations that all health department, Fire Marshall and permits approvals be submitted and that the package goods portion of the establishment be completely isolated from the restaurant portion and that the final plans be submitted to the Board for review, with the exception that patrons could have access to the restrooms on the package goods store's side of the building. Mr. Barnhart seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to approve the application with said stipulations.
2. **Case 6114**, the continuation of the application for a new Class B – Beer, Wine and Liquor license to be issued to Mona Curtis for the use of Frankie's Bar & Grill, Inc., t/a Frankie's Bar & Grill, 106 Main Street, New Windsor, Maryland 21776 in Election District 11. Betty and Frank Windsor appeared along with Mona Curtis and Jessie Windsor for the establishment. The previous approval granted to the applicants was contingent upon their having all state, town and county approvals at this hearing. However, they had not realized the amount of time necessary to get their propane connected, so the health department and fire marshal had not been able to approve the

- establishment yet. They had finally gotten the town approval and they submitted an email from the New Windsor Town Manager as exhibit 1. After further questioning and discussion, Mr. Barnhart made a motion to extend their deadline for submittal of all approvals to be turned in to Ms. Vance by February 1, 2019, that the Board be able to review the floor plan, and that they pass an inspection by Inspector Benfer. Mr. Harmening seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
3. At this time, the Board began their Business Meeting. Upon a motion by Mr. Barnhart and seconded by Mr. Harmening, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the December, 2018 meeting. Inspector Benfer gave updates on several establishments. Old Town Grill is still waiting on the report of the fire marshal and insurance inspector about their fire of December 15, 2018. They do plan to reopen, but there was \$100,000 in damage to the contents of the building and \$300,000 damage to the building. Number One North liquor store are hoping to be open in March, 2019. The construction is well under way. Michael's Steakhouse of Hampstead is being worked on and they hope to be open by the end of February. February is the deadline for the latest extension granted to them by the Board. Inspector Benfer and Chair, Mr. Brauning, reported on the small changes that were made to the legislation being proposed to the delegation. Mr. Harmening asked about the situation with Merritt Athletic Club working with the inspectors to make age compliance checks possible. Inspector Benfer reported that he has the VIP cards to get into the club, but that he and Inspector Reid need to discuss how it will work best. The Board stated that if this situation is not resolved within thirty (30) days that they will want to bring the licensee for the Merritt Club in to discuss the matter.
 4. At this time the Board opened the discussion about the possibility of submitting legislation to have the closing times for Class B, D and C establishments changed to 2 a.m. instead of 1 a.m. Dave Johansson and Sarah Redding attended this portion of the business meeting. Dave Johansson and Sarah spoke in favor of changing the closing time until 2 a.m. They spoke of bringing Carroll County up to the standards of the rest of the state. Mr. Johansson also felt that only a small amount of establishments would take advantage of the later closing time. Mr. Brauning and Inspector Benfer had canvassed several places and most of them said they would not stay open later or that they did not care about it. After further discussion, the Board asked that all establishments be emailed and invited to next month's business meeting to share their feelings about the possibility of this change. Ms. Vance will send out an email inviting their input and inviting them to the meeting.

At this time, there being no further business, upon a motion by George Harmening and seconded by George Barnhart, and a unanimous vote, Mr. Brauning adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jo Vance
Administrator Hearings Coordinator
Office of Administrative Hearings

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