

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND
BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of Public Meeting
March 25, 2024

The meeting of the Talbot County Board of Liquor License Commissioners was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 25, 2024. Present were Chairman Jack M. Gottschalk, Commissioner Edward M. Bridges, Jr., Commissioner David A. Fike, Alternate Jacqueline O'Neil and Board Secretary Victoria E. Bradley.

OLD BUSINESS

- Upon motion by Commissioner Bridges, seconded by Commissioner Fike, the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2024, were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Financier Grill, LLC – Application for transfer of a Class F-A liquor license (hotels/restaurants – on-sale, beer, wine and liquor) & Caterer's Endorsement

All those in attendance to testify in the matter were sworn in, (Applicants David Snyder & Gretchen Gordon).

Commissioner Bridges noted that he did not see a Tips card for the applicants. Ms. Gordon was able to produce her Tips certification card, however there was a clerical error for Mr. Snyders Tips Certification. Secretary Bradley confirmed that Mr. Ober sent the information regarding this to the Board and that Mr. Snyder had taken the TIPS class. The Board acknowledge that they are aware of the delays with the TIPS classes.

Chairman Gottschalk noticed the years of residency portion of the application was left blank. Mr. Snyder testified that he has been at his residence in Talbot County for less than 1 year but has a Maryland drivers license now.

Chairman Gottschalk asked for one of the applicants to sign Attachment #2, it was missing a name at the top. Ms. Gordon signed the final page for Attachment #2.

Chairman Gottschalk asked for more information regarding the Fire Marshalls report, the reports are carbon copies and illegible. Ms. Gordan testified as to what the inspection states and what she was told during the inspection, from her understanding everything has been corrected and has passed the inspection.

The applicants gave opening statements regarding their application and business plan for this location. Ms. Gordan testified that they would like to expand the dining and seating for the restaurant and bar.

Chairman Gottschalk asked if the applicants had obtained a Bulk Transfer Permit to allow for the inventory to be transferred. Mr. Snyder testified that he has submitted the application to the State, and it is currently pending.

Chairman Gottschalk asked when the business would be ready to open. Ms. Gordon testified that when they receive their license the Financier Grill will be ready to open right away.

There being no further discussion, the following motion was made:

- Motion made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bridges that the Board approve the application for transfer of a Class F-A liquor license provided the applicant submits the Bulk Transfer Permit and a completed legible Fire Marshalls Inspection. Motion passed unanimously.

Cork & Bottle Trappe, LLC – Application for a Class E, Beer, Wine & Liquor License (Off-sale Alcohol Dispensaries)

All those in attendance to testify in the matter were sworn in, (Applicants Curtis Snyder & Teresa Snyder).

Mr. Snyder gave opening statements with regard to the application. The applicant wants to bring a new business to the area, Trappe does not have an alcohol dispensary. They started this process around a year ago, the County Code did not allow for this type of business because it did not pass the current census requirements. Mr. Snyder testified that he spoke with the County Council about this matter, and they passed a Bill to allow 1 Class E license for each municipality and Trappe was the only one in Talbot County that did not have a Class E license.

Chairman Gottschalk asked for a description for the space for the dispensary. Mr. Snyder testified that the space was connected to the Coffee Trapp but has since been separated, Mr. Snyder also submitted a plan for the space.

Commissioner Fike asked to confirm that there was a clear separation of the two businesses and that customers could not walk in between the two separate businesses. Mr. Snyder testified that the two businesses have been separated by 2 doors that have 2 different lock that do not connect and the town of Trappe gave them a letter stating the new business would be 4016 Main Street, Unit A, Trappe, MD 21673.

Chairman Gottschalk informed the applicants that it is important to keep control of the alcohol and sale of alcohol on their premises.

Mr. Snyder testified that they are waiting for the completion of the Fire Marshalls inspection that is anticipated to be completed within the next few weeks. Mr. Snyder further testified that they would need to finish setting up the shelving at the business before the Fire Marshall can give their final approval.

Chairman Gottschalk expressed the importance of keeping up with the Maryland Law, Talbot County Code and TIPS certifications. Chairman Gottschalk further stressed the importance of checking ID's and being vigilant to protect themselves, the business and the community.

Secretary Bradley asked if the applicants had Attachment #3 ready to submit. Mr. Snyder submitted Attachment #3 to the Board.

There being no further discussion, the following motion was made:

- Motion made by Commissioner Bridges, seconded by Commissioner Fike to approve the application for a Class E, liquor license provided the applicant provides the Fire Marshalls Inspection. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Board moved to adjourn.

- Upon motion by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bridges, there being no further business to discuss, the Board voted unanimously to close the meeting at 10:43 a.m.