MEETING MINUTES

Liquor Control Board
Wednesday, May 23, 2018 11:00 a.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 2750

Members Present: Mayor Stephen H. Hagerty (Local Liquor Control Commissioner); Marion Macbeth; Dick Peach

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Theresa Whittington, Mario Treto

Others Present: Peter O’Malley (Beer on Central); Brian O’Malley (Beer on Central); Amy Morton (Found Kitchen); Sandeep Ghaey (Vinic Wine)

Presiding Member: Local Liquor Control Commissioner Stephen H. Hagerty/Mayor

CALL TO ORDER
The Local Liquor Control Commissioner Stephen Hagerty called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Beer on Central, 1930 Central St.
Class K license holders are currently allowed to offer for sale samples of beer for onsite consumption, not to exceed 24 fl oz and free samples of beer, not to exceed 6 fl oz. Peter O’Malley (PO), owner, requested consideration of amendment to Class K to increase onsite consumption limit of beer from 30 fl oz to 48 fl oz. PO stated that the 30 fl oz limit is challenging. PO says they are not a bar and have no intentions of becoming one. They don’t have a TV and they don’t stay open late. Brian O’Malley (BO), owner, stated that the 30 fl oz limit is awkward because container sizes of packaged items do not align with the onsite consumption limits. For instance, two 16 fl oz cans exceeds the onsite limit. PO says the increased limits will allow them a little more flexibility. PO pointed out that all employees are BASSET certified for on premise and off premise consumption. Mayor Hagerty expressed an interest in maintaining equity and consistency across liquor licenses. Mayor Hagerty asked how this adjustment would impact other liquor licenses. Theresa Whittington explained that the change would be applicable to the other Class K license holders: Vinic Wine and The Wine Goddess. It would also impact Binny’s who holds a class F-2 license and is currently limited to 30 fl oz onsite sample sales. PO stated that the craft brewers are allowed to offer onsite consumption without limits. Theresa Whittington pointed out that those businesses, unlike Class K, are required to offer expanded food service as a condition of their license. Dick Peach stated that craft beers are much higher in alcohol content than the typical standard beer that BASSET consumption charts are based on. He said that beers with 12-15% alcohol are often served as 6 fl oz pours because of the potency. 48 fl oz is concerning to him, given the higher alcohol content of craft beers. BO countered that 48 fl oz is the maximum requested and not the minimum. Marion
Macbeth thinks the breweries ought to have onsite consumption limits. The requirements should be consistent across all license classes. She favors limiting onsite sampling at all establishments. Mayor asked for the rationale of limiting breweries and specialty shops but not limiting onsite consumption at restaurants. Marion favors limits. She does not support increasing the max limit to 48 fl oz for Class K. PO stated that he is not aware of the craft breweries experiencing any issues with over consumption in spite of have no limits to onsite consumption. Mayor Hagerty stated that he is not aware of any issues with breweries who don’t have limits. Mayor Hagerty recognizes the double standard and would like to address it. Dick Peach does not want to create barriers for the breweries. Sandeep Ghaey expressed that business owners don’t want their customers getting in trouble and while 48 fl oz may sound like a lot, the staff must monitor on an individual basis. Dick Peach favors removing restrictions and handle issues on an individual basis. Marion Macbeth disagrees and worries a situation will be created that causes problems. Mayor Hagerty appreciates the sentiment. Mayor Hagerty feels 48 fl oz is a big jump. People don’t want a bar on Central Street. Mayor Hagerty is in favor of increasing the sample sale limits to 32 fl oz. PO stated that he still feels it is inequitable compared to the craft breweries. Mayor Hagerty stated that there is a lot to think about on this general issue.

The Local Liquor Control Commissioner asked the members if there were any further questions or concerns over the request. None were voiced. The Board recommended an amendment to be introduced at the City Council meeting on June 25, 2018.

**Found Restaurant, 1631 Chicago Ave/The Barn, 1016, Rear, Church St.**
Amy Morton (AM), Owner, requested consideration of amendment to allow Sunday alcohol service to begin at 10:30 a.m. for class D licenses (restaurant/liquor). AM would like earlier hours to accommodate Sunday brunch. Mayor Hagerty asked if there was any issue with changing Sunday hours to begin at 10 am on Sundays. Marion Macbeth stated that the hours should be consistent across the board. Theresa Whittington asked if the change is applying only to Class D or all restaurant license classes. Mayor Hagerty stated that the change to 10 a.m. would be for Sunday only across all restaurant license classes.

The Local Liquor Control Commissioner asked the members if there were any further questions or concerns over the request. None were voiced. The Board recommended issuance of an amendment to be introduced at the City Council meeting on June 25, 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned by the Local Liquor Control Commissioner Stephen H. Hagerty, Mayor at 11:52 a.m. May 23, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Whittington
Liquor Licensing Manager, Legal Department