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CLERK OF THE BOARD

LICENSING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Salem Licensing Board was held on Monday, **February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** via remote participation in accordance with Governor Baker's Emergency Order dated March 12, 2020. Those in attendance were: Chairman, Gary Barrett, members Gary Santo, Jr. and Deb Greel, Special Investigator to the Board, Sgt. John Doyle, City Solicitor Beth Rennard and Clerk of the Board, Melissa Pagliaro.

1. Transfer of an Annual All Alcohol License at 94 Lafayette St. Applicant: MP Restaurant and Bar Corp. for license currently held by SKF Hospitality Group, Inc. d/b/a Stella's Restaurant & Wine Bar. Continued from previous meeting on December 14, 2020.

This Application was withdrawn.

2. Application for a Common Victualler's License at 282 Derby St. (unit C1) Applicant: Shallots, Inc. d/b/a Sweet Boba.

City Solicitor recommended approval for this new shop. Ms. Greel said it is great to have someone back in that spot. Ms. Non said the shop will be open from 11am-7pm seven days a week. She said there will just be background music and television. Mr. Santo motioned to approve contingent upon the paperwork being completed. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

3. Continued discussion with the owners of a Lodging House at 10 Howard St., Reza Mojtabai.

See Item #4

4. Discussion and possible Vote of the Board to renew 2021 license for 10 Howard St., Lodging House.

City Solicitor recommended that after meetings with owners, their attorney, abutters and Salem Police, that renewal of the lodging house license be granted with the following conditions:

- 1- Owners to update House Rules to distribute to every tenant. These rules to be reviewed by Licensing Dept and shall include no loitering or littering on property of abutters, no noise disturbances, etc. Tenant sign off on receipt.
- 2- Owners to provide the Licensing Department and the CIU with a current list of residents and their unit/room numbers. List shall be updated upon change of tenancy.
- 3- Owners to provide a name and a telephone number of a 24-hour contact person to be given to the Licensing & CIU and neighbors.
- 4- Owners to furnish NO TRESPASSING signs for neighbors if they request them. Standard signs available at local hardware store shall be provided.
- 5- Owners shall work with Postmaster (with assistance from PD) to put mail in boxes for each of the units.

- 6- Owners shall work with the Salem Police CIU to explore options for surveillance cameras, including monetary contribution toward same.
- 7- Owners shall comply with any requirements of city officials following inspection on 2-18-21.

Ms. Rennard said that since the last meeting there was an inspection done by the Health and Fire Depts. She said there are some items that need to be addressed. The attorney said they have already begun addressing those things. Mr. Barrett said he thinks those issues need to be corrected before license is issued. Ms. Rennard said the issues of the cameras and mail are being worked on by their attorney as well. Mr. Santo said he feels the responses are passive and the other issues are still a problem. He doesn't know if any of this will change problems here. Ms. Greel said she agrees. She said she is not comfortable on renewing license until Health and Fire issues are addressed. Officer Gross said some of these suggestions will just help Police be able to address issues immediately. He said they may not be answers but they are tools to help better the address the complaints. Ms. Greel said she can appreciate that but that if the issues continue it still takes resources away from the PD. Mr. Barrett asked about a manager on site. Ms. Rennard said she and Police agree sometimes that is more of an issue as it can pit a tenant against another tenant. Mr. Barrett allowed the public to speak. Abutters Ms. Solomom and Mr. Murray spoke on the incidents that have occurred there as well as a first-time issue with trash at 10 Howard as of today. They both said they agree with all of the concerns the neighbors have presented to the Board and thanked the Licensing Board for listening to their concerns. Atty. DiAdamo said that he is and always has worked closely with the Police Dept. to resolve and issues and will continue to do so. He said that legally there are certain things the owners cannot do. Mr. Barrett said he would agree to hold a Hearing on this issue at the next meeting so that the Board can decide what to do. Mr. Santo motioned to vote to hold a Hearing on March 22, 2021. Ms. Greel seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October, November and December 2020.

Ms. Greel motioned to approve. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Vote was confirmed by a roll call vote, 3-0.

6. New Business/Old Business:

Sgt. Doyle discusses an incident at Brothers Taverna on Derby St. He said once he had more information, he would bring it to the Board.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Greel motioned to adjourn. Mr. Santo seconded. Mr. Barrett said motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7pm.