



Liquor Advisory Board October 6, 2016

The City of Carbondale's Liquor Advisory Board held a meeting on Thursday, October 6, 2016, in Room 103 of the Carbondale Civic Center, 200 South Illinois Avenue. Vice Chair Mills called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following-named members of the Board present/absent:

1. Roll Call

Present: Tasis Karayiannis, Donald Monty, David Cisco, and John Mills (Steve Payne entered at 5:33 p.m.)

Absent: Mark Robinson

A quorum was available to take action on the agenda items. City Staff present for the meeting included City Clerk Jennifer Sorrell, City Attorney Jamie Snyder, Deputy Chief Stan Reno, and Fire Inspector Tom Manis.

2. Approval of minutes from September 1, 2016

D. Monty moved, T. Karayiannis seconded, to approve the minutes of September 1, 2016. VOTE: All voted aye; motion declared carried.

3. Application for a Class A2 liquor license from Cristaudo's LLC, d/b/a Cristaudo's Café, Bakery and Catering, at 209 South Illinois Avenue

Jennifer Rollinson and Leah Maciell were present to respond to Board inquiries. The applicants indicated that there has been customer interest in pairing food options with alcoholic beverages; that they feel that being able to serve local wine and beer during events where the space has been rented out or for fundraising events would be beneficial; and that they may include alcohol in items such as sponge cakes.

Questions and comments from the Board included the following: Any plans to change existing structure? [No.] Will entertainment include video gaming? [No. Primarily consists of art shows, fundraisers, and paired meals.] Question regarding financial information included in the application, that the amount which is listed is the total invested in building and business, not just for the service of alcohol? [Correct.] Musical entertainment? [They have already hosted musical acts, including Carbondale Rocks Revival and employees' bands.]

D. Cisco moved, D. Monty seconded, to recommend approval of the application for a Class A2 license for Cristaudo's LLC, contingent upon receipt of all outstanding items. VOTE: All voted aye; motion declared carried.

4. Application for a Class B2 liquor license for Bobby McBride, d/b/a Hollywood Lounge, at 104 West Jackson Street

Bobby McBride was present to respond to Board inquiries. Mr. McBride noted that his intentions are to start out operating as a bar and to provide entertainment. At a later time he hopes to add a kitchen. He noted that he is a carpenter and is handling the remodeling himself.

Questions and comments from the Board included the following: What is the rationale for reducing the occupancy to 170? [Doesn't want to crowd attendees] Plans for a beer garden? [Application will come back to the Board at a later time] Concerns were expressed about issues at this location in the past. Deputy Chief

Reno noted the frequency of police resources arriving to maintain peaceful crowds in the City lot across the street from the previous business. Question 28 was answered “no,” is that correct? [It was an error; there are no issues with taxes] Source of funds lists “E.T. Simonds” – is this a previous employer? [He does all of his own work and E.T. Simonds is his employer, not a financial backer] If \$5,000 is all the money to work with, there will be an issue. [He has other money that he can put into the business; he is leasing the building; he is a carpenter who is doing all of the work himself, and answered the question with those factors in mind] What will it cost to stock establishment, compensate managers, bartenders, and waitstaff, as well as other costs? [\$3,000 - \$4,000 for stocking; will have to obtain insurance; bouncers are paid \$10 per hour, bartenders work for tips, and at first, they will only be working four or five hours a night for five to six days a week] Will there be video gaming? [Not at this moment, but maybe later; focused on creating employment in the community] It was noted that the City Council recently capped video gaming licenses. Please elaborate on management experience addressed by question 7. [Managed a nightclub in Missouri in the 80s which had a live DJ] Question regarding the verbiage in which it appears that the business is already operating and currently has a customer base [Based this response on people stopping in for information about the opening of the club] Will there be bands playing? [Occasionally] What are the applicant’s thoughts about measures he can take to prevent people from congregating outside on the City parking lot? [He can increase the number of bouncers, and as an individual, he hosts a large tournament annually and is pretty good at handling crowds. He will be supportive of police inside and outside of the location.] If \$5,000 is all of the startup money available, he will run out of money before the doors open due to the cost of purchasing liquor, the license fees, insurance, and employee compensation. [He has more than \$5,000 – probably has around \$10,000 to \$15,000 to start, the business would be sold out for the next 30 nights based on the number of people calling about booking parties.] It was noted that there are many days where businesses lose more money than they bring in. [He is a carpenter and is earning enough to survive] What kind of parties are people wanting to throw? [Older people wanting to throw parties, like fraternity groups, birthday parties – it’s the only African-American club in the neighborhood. He is well known in the community and people want to support the business.] Concern was again expressed that the applicant was aware of issues which occurred previously and that he will ensure that those problems don’t reoccur. [He is well aware.] Why is he interested in getting into this business? [He is a businessman and sees a way where he can earn revenue for himself and the community, create jobs for the community, and he is pretty sure he will be successful if given the chance.]

A report was reviewed by several members of the Board. City Attorney Jamie Snyder apprised the Board that the business appeared to be open on September 24, so a police check was performed. There appeared to be no alcohol on the premises, but there was music being played and there were around 40 patrons present. It appeared to be operating as an entertainment club. The question is whether the applicant was the leaseholder at the time, and was he aware that it was being operated as an entertainment club on that date.

The Board followed up with the following questions and comments: Were you operating the business or insuring the business on September 24? [Yes, he was in charge of the business.] So you were aware it was open on September 24? [It was just a few friends up there, there was no alcohol on the premises, it was a test run on the equipment.] Was he charging admission? [No.] Did any money change hands of any nature? [No. He is a popular person in the community. He could go out and open a hotdog stand and have a hundred people stop by.] In the City Code, there are licenses for entertainment establishments even if they don’t serve alcohol, so the concern is whether this was operating as an entertainment establishment without a license. Were soft drinks served, or did they bring their own soft drinks? [They (the attendees) were congregating, I wasn’t serving. They had some water and may have had some cranberry juice, that’s it. I didn’t plan it, I was just testing DJ equipment; I’ve done a lot of work on the place. The police have stopped several times at night when I am working.] Do you have anything scheduled? [No] The report referenced a scholarship fundraising. [That’s just something he does on his own.] Can people can donate to the scholarship fund? [Yes, he has his own private fund.] That wasn’t the price of admission? [No.]

D. Monty moved, D. Cisco seconded, to recommend approval of the application for a Class B2 license for Bobby McBride, contingent upon receipt of all outstanding items. VOTE: All voted aye; motion declared carried.

5. Citizens' Comments

None.

Next Liquor Advisory Board Meeting Date: November 3

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Jennifer R. Sorrell, City Clerk

Date Approved