



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
OFFICE OF THE LICENSING BOARD
CITY HALL, ROOM 206**

APRIL 29, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.
LOCATION: NEW BEDFORD CITY HALL
ASHLEY ROOM # 120

MINUTES

REQUIRED: Ricard Rezendes, Chairman
Richard McCue, Commissioner
James Dee, Commissioner
Atty. Peter Winters, Associate City Solicitor
Captain Justin Kagan, Police Department Liaison to the Licensing Board
Christine Amaral, Executive Aide

MEETING MINUTES TO APPROVE

November 14, 2024

VOTED: To approve meeting minutes of November 14, 2024, as presented and place on file. – **Unanimous**

APPROVALS RECEIVED FROM THE ABCC (1)

Petition - LIC # 00090-RS-0778 - Plot # 85-148

Pam-Lu Corporation, D/B/A Leplace, Lucy Langavin, President who is petitioning for a transfer of their Common Victualler (Restaurant) All Alcoholic Beverages License to The Gallery Bar LLC.

VOTED: To accept the approvals from the ABCC and place on file. – **Unanimous**

PETITIONS (8)

1. Petition – LIC # 03837-RS-0778 - Plot # 058-0323

Agua De Pau Restaurant, Inc. D/B/A Touissaint Restaurant, Mamadou Diakite, President, who is petitioning to transfer a Common Victualler (Restaurant) All Alcoholic Beverages License to Elks of the World (William H. Carney Lodge 200 I.B.P.O d/b/a). Upon approval, William J. Andrews will be the President, and Liquor License Manager. Leonard Ramos will be the Treasurer, Bret Haith will be the Clerk, Francisco Graca and Gregory Pollard will be Directors. They are also seeking a Change of License Type from a Restaurant to a Club, an Entertainment License and a Change of Location from 420 Rivet Street to 293 Cottage Street. The licensed premises consist of an area of approx. 3385 sq. ft. on the first floor of a one-story building, including a function room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 4 storage rooms and a D.J. Booth. There are 3 entrances and 2 exits. The building is numbered 293 Cottage Street.

Final approval will require a **Change of Use/Certificate of Inspection from Inspectional Services, a Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.** *Application has been advertised; Abutters Notification mailed.*

Present: Attorney Marie Spring and William Andrews - Proposed Manager

The Elks Club has been at this location for many years, and they gave up their liquor license during COVID. They will welcome members and nonmembers with such things as neighborhood cookouts and dinners (they must apply for a food permit). They are seeking an entertainment license so they can have bands and host events (an entertainment license will be applied for). They plan on attracting the right element at this location and will have

a security man and a buzzer at the door. All members and servers will become TIPS certified. The Board also reminded the members that they are surrounded by a residential neighborhood so the noise level must be kept at an acceptable level. Councilor at Large Naomi Carney commented that she is in favor of this petition and Councilor at Large Brian Gomes also noted that the Elks Club is a beacon of the community and supportive of the neighborhood. They are planning to reopen the club in late September, early October with a cookout for the neighbors. The Club is closed currently for renovations.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

2. Petition - LIC # 08227-GP-0778 - Plot # 015-0280

D & D Caterers, Inc., LLC d/b/a Kilburn Event Center, Drew Sylvia, holding 40% stock and David Sylvia holding 60% stock are petitioning to transfer a General on Premise All Alcoholic Beverages License to Pranzi Inc. Upon approval, Lisa Mattillio will be the President and Manager of the Liquor License holding (50%) stock. Nicola Mattiello is the Proposed Vice President holding (50%) stock. The licensed premise is an “Event Center”, which consists of an area approximately 25,550 sq. ft. on the 3rd floor of a three - story building, which includes the Main Event Center (approx. 10,765 sq. ft.), which includes a bar, stage, and table seating; a Seated Lounge Area (approx. 2,580 sq. ft.); a secondary Event Space (approx. 4,625 sq. ft.), which includes a bar and table seating; a Caterer’s & Concession Stand Kitchen area (approx. 646 sq. ft.); and there is also a Roof Deck (approx. 7,582 sq. ft.) for outside events, which includes a temporary bar and temporary seating as needed. There is also an Alcohol Storage Room (approx. 72 sq. ft.) located in an adjacent ‘Common Area’; and there are two (2) sets of restrooms. The licensed premises has two (2) entrance/exit stairways, as well as a passenger elevator entrance located in the southwest corner of the building; along with two (2) additional emergency exits with one located in the northeast corner of the building and a second one in the southwest corner of the building. The premise is situated on the west side of Rodney French Boulevard, between Grit and Woodlawn Streets. The premise will remain numbered 95-127 West Rodney French Boulevard, Suite-S3-001.

Final approval will require a **Change of Use/Certificate of Inspection from Inspectional Services, a Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.** *Application has been advertised; Abutters Notification mailed.*

Present: Lisa Mattillio - Proposed Manager/Owner

Pranzi Inc. will be taking over the operations at the previous D & D Catering located in the Kilburn Mill. They have another location in Rhode Island and specialize in weddings, corporate and special events. They will hire police details for certain events. All staff will be TIPS Certified. The outdoor deck will be utilized mostly for cocktail hour. Owner of D & D, Drew Silvia spoke in favor of this petition.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

3. Petition - LIC # 07080-RS-0778 - Plot # 053-0192

A & A Management Group, Inc. D/B/A Desdemona petitioning to transfer a Common Victualler (Restaurant) all Alcoholic Beverages License to RoyalT, LLC D/B/A RoyalT along with a Change of Location to 1856 Acushnet Avenue and a Pledge of Collateral. Upon approval Barbara Yell will be a co-stockholder (50%), and Ashley Frates will be a co-stockholder (50%) and the Manager of the Liquor License. Licensed premises consist of approximately 5,400 sq feet. Including a dining room, kitchen, storage closet, bar area and four restrooms. There are three (3) entrances/exits. Premise is numbered 1856 Acushnet Avenue.

Final approval will require a **Change of Use/Certificate of Inspection from Inspectional Services, a Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.** *Application has been advertised; Abutters Notification mailed.*

Present: Attorney Michael McVeigh and Ashley Frates - Proposed Manager/Owner

This business is currently operating serving coffee, tea, sandwiches and brunch items. They are seeking a liquor license and entertainment license to add to their menu and host events such as music bingo, trivia, karaoke and pop-up events. Ms. Frates has experience as a bartender and bar manager. She attended bartending school and is TIPS Certified. They are planning to close by 10:00 p.m. and currently do not have security but states that they

will hire a detail if needed. At this location there are 15 residential apartments upstairs. The Board was informed by the Building Commissioner that the ceiling did not have sound proofing during the current renovations. Ms. Frates states that she has good relations with the tenants, and they are not looking to have loud music.

Ward 2 Councilor Maria Giesta states that this is a nice area and although most in the area are in favor of their plan the previous owners had multiple complaints about noise, parking, and people hanging around outside.

Three neighbors spoke to show their support. One directly abutting neighbor brought Attorney Michael Medeiros with him to speak about the previous owners and the nuisance complaints. He states that he could not have his windows open in the summer due to noise and is concerned about this business obtaining a liquor license. Last year they would have car shows on Sundays in the parking lot from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. with a 10' speaker. He states the loudspeakers are imposing on the neighbors and abutters. Another neighbor on Clifford Street is worried about parking on her street. Ms. Freitas stated that they have parking spaces for thirty cars in the lot. Chairman Rezendes told Ms. Freitas to please be mindful of your neighbors concerning the early noise on weekends and the parking situation. Miss Freitas commented we have not been given a chance that is not our vibe we will address any concerns if tenants or neighbors complain we will address it immediately.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

4. Petition - Plot # 098-0124

Quino's Pizza & Subs, Inc., D/B/A Quino's Pizza & Subs, with an address of 1431 Acushnet Avenue requesting a new Wine & Malt Common Victualler License. Juana Quino DeLeon is President holding 16.34% stock, Juan M. Quino DeLeon is Vice President holding 51% stock, Rolando Quino De Leon is Treasurer holding 16.33% stock and Lidia S. Sicaj Osorio is Secretary holding 16.33% stock. Juan M. Quino De Leon will be Manager of the Liquor License. The licensed premises consist of 1,207 sq feet on the first floor including a storage area, restroom, prep area, kitchen, reception area and dining room. There are two entrances/ exits. The premises is numbered 1431 Acushnet Avenue.

Final approval will require a **Change of Tenant from Inspectional Services, a new Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.** *Application has been advertised; Abutters Notification mailed.*

Present: Attorney Michael McVeigh and Juan Quinto DeLeon - Proposed Manager/Owner

This restaurant opened 2019 and the owners would like to add Wine & Beer to help increase revenue. They do not have any experience serving alcohol and have been made aware that all servers must be TIPS Certified. There will be no other changes to the business. They do not have security and do not request an entertainment license. The normal business hours are 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Ward 2 Councilor Maria Giesta spoke in support of this license.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

5. Petition - LIC # 00164-PK-0778 - Plot # 119-0086

Hari Liquors Inc. d/b/a Trio Liquors, Divyesh Patel, President, who is petitioning to transfer a Retail Package Store All Alcoholic Beverages License to N & N Discount Liquors Inc. d/b/a N & N Discount Liquors. Upon approval, Nileshkumar M. Patel will be the President, Treasurer and Co-Shareholder (51%); Nitinkumar N. Patel will be the Secretary and Co-Shareholder (49%). Nileshkumar M. Patel is the Proposed Manager. Premises will remain the same - one room, 82' x 60' approximately, with coolers on the first floor of a one-story building, with storage in the rear of the first floor and in the basement situated on the southeast corner of Belleville Avenue and Tarkiln Hill Road and numbered 928 Belleville Avenue.

Final approval will require a **Change of Tenant from Inspectional Services, a new Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.** *Application has been advertised.*

Present: Attorney John Williams and Nileshkumar M. Patel - Proposed Manager/Owner

The operation at this off premise package store will stay the same as it is with different owners. Mr. Patel owns 2 other similar stores, and he plans to be at this location 40 hrs. per week. All staff and the owners are TIPS

Certified. This application is incomplete; the office is waiting for the DOR and DUA Certificates of Good Standing.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC once proper documentation is received. – **Unanimous**

6. Petition - LIC # 00222-RS-0778 - Plot # 072-0124

Jose DoSouto D/B/A Carlos Kitchen, Jose Antonio DoSouto sole shareholder petitioning to transfer a Common Victualler (Restaurant) Wine & Malt Beverages License to Society Coffee Bar Inc., along with a change of location to 95-127 West Rodney French Blvd. Upon approval Keith Viveiros will be co- stockholder (50%) and President, Treasurer, Director and Manager of the Liquor License. Debra Viveiros will be co- stockholder (50%) and Vice President, Director and Secretary. Licensed premises consist of 3,464 sq feet. The loft size space consists of a main dining area, mezzanine level, kitchen and service area. There is an entrance/exit for the public at the front of the building and two ancillary entrance/exits connecting to Kilburn Mill. The premises is numbered 95-127 West Rodney French Blvd.

Final approval will require a **Change of Tenant from Inspectional Services, a new Food Permit from the Health Department, Proof of Liquor Liability and a Business Certificate from The City Clerk Office.**

Application has been advertised; Abutters Notification mailed.

Present: Keith Viveiros and Debra Viveiros-Proposed Manager/Owners

The owners of this coffee shop have three years' experience serving and managing two other locations, one in Taunton and one in Somerset, both have alcohol licenses. The proposed hours are 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and available for special events. They will be applying for a Common Victualler License and an Entertainment License. Mr. Viveiros plans to be at the business 30-40 hours per week, and he will also employ an assistant manager for this location. All servers will be TIPS Certified.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

7. Petition - LIC # 08559-RS-0778 - Plot # 053-0068

Servedwell Italiano LLC, D/B/A Candela Cucina located at 72 North Water Street, Stephen Silverstein, Owner and Manager, is requesting the approval of Peter Biondi, who resides in New Bedford, MA. as the new Liquor License New Manager.

Present: Peter Biondi- Proposed Manager

Mr. Biandi has six years' experience in the hospitality industry and has been employed as the General Manager at other locations. He is TIPS Certified.

VOTED: To approve the application as presented and forward to the ABCC. – **Unanimous**

8. Petition - LIC # 00090-RS-0778 - Plot # 85-148

The Gallery Bar LLC. located at 20 Kenyon Street. This license was approved by the ABCC on March 14, 2025. Marco Moura is an LLC Member and Co-Manager holding 48% of shares. Matthew Spink is an LLC Member, Co- Manager and holds 47% of shares, he is the Liquor License Manager. Jessica Fritze is an LLC Member and holds 5% of the shares.

THE GALLERY BAR IS REQUESTING THAT WE WAIVE THE 2025 ANNUAL LICENSE FEE.

Present: Matthew Spink- Manager/Co-Owner

Mr. Spink is requesting the Board waive the 2025 annual fee for the license that was approved on March 14, 2025, by the ABCC. He explained that he had a hard time acquiring this license and that this Board should have removed the previous owner's license sooner. The Board worked to rectify this and gave the previous owners of the license a six-month time frame to either use the license, sell the license or the city would revoke the license. This is the same time frame the Board has given to all the pocket (licenses that are not in use) license holders.

VOTED: To decline the waiver. – **Unanimous**

SPECIAL ONE DAY LICENSES (22)

VOTED: To take up items 9-30, waive reading, approve applications as presented and place on file. – **Unanimous**

9. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

New Bedford Whaling Museum, Beatriz Oliveira, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for a First Friday Event, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Friday, April 4, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

10. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Club Madeirense, S.S. Club Sacramento Inc., David Macedo, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for the Vocational Committee Fish Fry Fundraiser to be held at the Madeira Field Feast Grounds at 50 Madeira Avenue; and to be held on Friday, April 11, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.

11. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

New Bedford Whaling Museum, Beatriz Oliveira, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day Wine & Malt License for a Dinner Event, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

12. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

New Bedford Whaling Museum, Beatriz Oliveira, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day Wine & Malt License for a Lecture & Cocktail Reception, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Thursday, April 17, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

13. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Food Truck Festivals of America LLC, Anthony Pepe, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License for the New Bedford Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival, at Fort Taber; and to be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

14. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity, Sarah Van Vleck, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License for a Fundraiser, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

15. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Fashion Rev NB, Chaska England, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day wine & Malt Beverages License for a Fashion Show/Beer & Wine Tasting to be held at Gallery X, located at 169 William Street; and to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

16. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Azorean Maritime Heritage Society, Melissa Branco, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day Wine & Malt License for A Sails of Portugal Event, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Friday, May 9, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

17. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Father Christopher Peshel, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day Wine & Malt License for The Holy Ghost Feast, at Mount Carmel Parish, located at 230 Bonny Street; and to be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, and Sunday June 8, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

18. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Food Truck Festivals of America LLC, Anthony Pepe, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License for the New Bedford Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival, at Fort Taber; and to be held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

19. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

One SouthCoast Chamber, Katie Greene, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License for the New Bedford Seaport Chowderfest, at City Pier 3, located at 51 MacArthur Drive; and to be held on Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

20. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

New Bedford Sports Club, Inc., Maria Vieira, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License for the Annual Cookout, at 1792 Acushnet Avenue; and to be held on Saturday, June 21, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 11:45 p.m.

21. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Buttonwood Park Zoological Society, Katie Sherman, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for a Soiree at the Zoo, at Buttonwood Park, located at 425 Hawthorn Street; and to be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

22. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Father Christopher Peshel, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day Wine & Malt License for The Mount Carmel Feast, at Mount Carmel Parish, located at 230 Bonny Street; and to be held on Saturday, July 26, 2025, and Sunday July 27, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

23. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

WHALE, Diane Brodeur, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for their Annual Meeting, at Rotch-Jones- Duff House, located at 396 County Street; and to be held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

24. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

St. Michaels Club, Christopher Correia, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for the Fiesta Do Chicharao, at The St. Michaels Club, located at 101 Madeira Avenue; and to be held on Friday, July 18, 2025, and Saturday, July 19, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 11:45 p.m.

25. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

New Bedford Whaling Museum, Beatriz Oliveira, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for a First Friday Event, at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Friday, May 2, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

26. APPLICATION, (No Representation Required)

WHALE, Diane Brodeur, Representative, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for a building Re-Dedication, at Kettle Black Gallery, located at 1 Johnny Cake Hill; and to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

- **2025 SUMMER SOUND SERIES**

****Purchase Street Area****

27. APPLICATION (No Representation Required)

The Pour Farm Tavern, Inc., Jennifer McHugh, Manager, who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverage License for the 2025 Summer Sound Series to be held on Purchase Street between Union and William Streets; and to be held Friday June 27, July 18, August 8 & 22, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. ****NO CHANGES, AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED****

****Union Street Area****

28. APPLICATION (No Representation Required)

Play (Retro Entertainment, LLC), Adam Katz, Manager who is requesting approval of an application for a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverage License for the 2025 Summer Sound Series to be held on Union Street from North Water Street to Route 18; and to be held Friday June 20, July 4 & 25, and August 15, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. ****NO CHANGES, AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED****

29. APPLICATION (No Representation Required)

Cultivator (Cultivator Shoals LLC), Nick Frakes is requesting approval of an application for a Special One Day Alcoholic Beverage License for the 2025 Summer Sound Series to be held on Union Street from North Water Street to Route 18; and to be held Friday, June 20, July 4 & 25, and August 15, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. ****NO CHANGES, AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED****

30. APPLICATION (No Representation Required)

New Beige (39 Union, Inc. d/b/a), Ariana Souza is requesting approval of an application for a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverage License for a 2025 Summer Sound Series to be held on Union Street from North Water Street to Route 18; and to be held Friday, June 20, July 4 & 25, and August 15, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. ****NO CHANGES, AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED****

HEARING (1) - Item Tabled from the March 11, 2025, Meeting

Illyrian, LLC d/b/a Wings Over New Bedford
Mr. Mariglen Yskollari, Manager
972 Kempton Street

Your presence is requested at a hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to determine whether you have violated certain provisions of the City Ordinances of New Bedford, regarding several neighbor complaints submitted to this office and to City Councilors. This meeting will be held in the New Bedford City Hall Room #120.

Violations: New Bedford Code Section 15 - 1.2.

Any business operating under a Common Victualler (Restaurant) license which abuts a residential property shall be subject to a restriction after a hearing before the City of New Bedford Licensing Board, which may restrict the overnight or late night operating hours between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., so as not to menace the health or interrupt or disturb the sleep of residents, and said City of New Bedford Licensing Board may restrict or prohibit or otherwise regulate said establishment between said hours. Any residential abutter may request a hearing before said City of New Bedford Licensing Board to seek such a restriction.

Summary of Complaints

You were previously notified and put on notice on July 23, 2018, June 8, 2020, May 3, 2021, May 24, 2021, (Hearing), October 19, 2022, and December 16, 2024, of neighbor complaints regarding late night disturbances that have been occurring involving members of your staff and/or customers. The Licensing Board reminded you that it was your responsibility to monitor your establishment very carefully and in particular at this time to address

the problem of late-night congregation of staff, patrons, and cars that result in noise disturbances in consideration of your neighbors.

The Board also advised you that if any further complaints were received from residents or from the Police Department, a hearing would be held by the Licensing Board to determine whether you have violated certain provisions of your license and that a hearing would be held on this matter, which may result in your hours of operation being amended as stated in City Ordinance 15-1.2 (3).

Please be advised, failure to appear at this meeting will result in immediate suspension of your Common Victualler (Restaurant) license until this matter is resolved.

Present: Attorney Gregory Longo and Mariglen Yskollari- Owner/Manager

This item was continued from the March 11, 2025, meeting. Wings over New Bedford is a restaurant specializing in fried chicken wings that abuts residential property in the city. There have been neighbor complaints about the noise and disturbances at this property since they opened eight years ago. They are open late-night hours and most of the complaints are about the employees during the process of closing the restaurant.

Mrs. Fields, who lives behind the business has stated she has called the police many times with disturbances such as the staff hanging around outside after they close making noise and playing music. She also has videos on her phone that she showed the Licensing Board. She also states that she has had a harassment order on one of their employees. Another issue is that they deliver and use Uber and Doordash, most of this is during late night hours.

Attorney Longo asked Ms. Fields if she ever approached the staff or owner cordially and her reply was yes. He then asked why there is a surveillance video of Mr. Fields entering the business aggressively and assaulting a worker? He also states that once the matter was in District Court the owner, Mr. Yskollari refused to press charges and that he is open to communication with neighbors. On February 15, 2025, there is a surveillance video of Mr. Fields having to be held back while yelling at an employee.

Attorney Connor, Attorney for the Fields Family, states she has made several attempts to the owner and the city to assist in this matter. The workers are harassing the Fields Family by ringing their doorbell and then spitting on their porch. Workers pull into their driveway playing loud music from their cars to antagonize, driving on their lawn, walking by and spitting on the lawn, and they make excessive noise at the dumpster during late night hours. She states that she has made diligent efforts to communicate with Attorney Longo and the owner.

Councilor at Large, Naomi Carney states to the Board that she has spoken to the landlord of the property many times because of garbage in the street, rat problems, pouring used oil in the street, grease in the dumpster, delivery trucks blocking Jenny Lind Street to traffic, late night noise, and garbage trucks before 7:00 a.m. The neighbors had no issues with the last business (Domino's Pizza) that was at this location, if there was an issue it was taken care of. Wings Over New Bedford have not been good neighbors since day one. She also states that she feels their late-night hours should be decreased. They are open until 1:00 a.m. on the weekends and that it is late for a residential neighborhood.

Ward 5 Councilor, Joseph Lopes states he has heard there were issues with rodents he has reached out to Board of Health on that topic. Also, the neighborhood has dealt with noise issues on multiple occasions.

Commissioner McCue asked if there is any documentation from the Board of Health or from the landlord that the rodent issues are from this location? There is no documentation.

Chairman Rezendes asked, if there is a harassment letter issued against one of the employees, why is this employee still working there?

The answer given from Attorney Longo was that the Fields did not renew the harassment letter after one year and it expired.

Chairman Rezendes asked "what his status will be tomorrow", Mr. Yskollari stated "fired".

Commissioner Dee asked why the two attorneys can't sit down and work this out?

Councilor at Large, Naomi Carney explained to the Board the problem is with the late-night hours, it's too late for a residential neighborhood and if she can hear the late-night noise and music from the staff so can other neighbors because she lives at the end of the street. She said that if the Board could control business hours from

10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. she encourages that restraint to be made.

Chairman Rezendes asked the Board “What is your pleasure” Commissioner McCue is at a loss and defers to Commissioner Dee who states that you can’t go through life being harassed and the Fields are in distress. If we amend their hours to 10:00 p.m. and things go well in time we can address these issues and maybe raise them to 11:00 p.m. Attorney Longo states that 10:00 p.m. is a lot of time to lose maybe start with decreasing to 12:00 a.m. Commissioner McCue made a motion to place them on probation for three months then re-address if there are any new issues. There was no second to that motion. Motion died on the floor.

Commissioner Dee made a motion to decrease hours to 10:30 P.M. moving forward. Chairman Rezendes seconded that motion. All in favor.

HEARING (2)

O’Escondidinho, Inc. d/b/a Sebastian’s Café & Sports Bar
 Ms. Renee Y. Sebastian, Manager
 110-114 County Street
 New Bedford, MA. 02740

Your presence and that of Joe Sebastian is requested at a hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in the New Bedford City Hall Room #120. The intention for this hearing is for us to address a Police Report involving your establishment as reported by the City of New Bedford Police Department. Based on their findings, the Licensing Board may take action to modify or suspend your license. They are as follows:

Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission Regulation 204 CMR 2.05

States no licensee shall permit any illegality to occur on the licensed premises. The licensee is responsible, whether present or not, for ensuring that no disorder, disturbance, or illegality takes place in or on licensed premises.

Licensing Board Regulation No. 11

EXCESSIVE HILARITY, NOISE, CROWDS and OBJECTIONABLE PERSONS shall not be permitted on or about the premises. It is the responsibility of the Licensee to enforce this rule.

Licensing Board Regulations No. 12

Premises must at all times be kept safe.

Summary of Incident Report

Units were dispatched to 110-114 County Street, Sebastian’s Café and Sports Bar for illegal drug activity and a search warrant issued to the Massachusetts State Police.

Date of alleged violations

December 12, 2024

January 2, 2025

January 22, 2025

January 27, 2025- search warrant

Please be advised that failure to appear at this meeting may result in immediate suspension of your liquor license until this matter is resolved.

Present: Joe Sebastian and Renee Sebastian - Manager/Owner and Matthew Holden- State Police

Commissioner Rezendes asked Mr. & Ms. Sebastian if they knew why they were here. Mr. Sebastian stated there was a raid at his place that he did not know anything about, he was not there and one of the girls working asked someone to contact him.

State Trooper Matthew Holden was present and asked to give a synopsis. The court proceeding is still ongoing so he did not go into detail. His unit conducted three undercover buys at this establishment on three separate occasions, and this led to a Superior Court Judge approving a search warrant to be issued. The buys were made by the person in question leaving the product in Sebastian's bathroom using the buzzer behind the bar, letting the buyer into the bathroom.

Chairman Rezendes asked to the best of your knowledge of the investigation, is there any evidence that the owners or workers had any knowledge of this.

State Trooper Matthew Holden answered, "yes because the person in question seemed to have free rein of the establishment."

Ms. Sebastian stated, "I disagree with that."

State Trooper Matthew Holden asked if the restroom required a buzzer to access it?

Ms. Sebastian stated "yes."

State Trooper Matthew Holden stated that "The individual had access to that buzzer to allow deals to be completed in the restroom."

Mr. Sebastian then stated that "my problem with this is that he wished that someone would have reached out to him and asked him if he knew what was going on in his place."

Chairman Rezendes explained that they cannot do that.

Mr. Sebastian says that he has done everything in his power to make the place safe and the buzzer is so that only one person can go into the restroom at a time. He also states he served that individual with a no trespassing order so that he cannot enter the bar anymore.

Ms. Sebastian states they have been in business for almost 40 years, and drugs are not condoned in the business, the individual was a paying customer and has never caused a problem in the bar. We cannot see what is happening in the restroom, and the employees were not aware of the situation.

Mr. Sebastian said that he willingly handed over the surveillance video when asked for it.

Ms. Sebastian stated that County Street is a bad area there is homelessness, prostitution and drugs.

Chairman Rezendes asked him if they still had security at the bar.

Mr. Sebastian states that he does not have security because he has been closing the business at 9:00 p.m. due to lack of business, he is not even making enough to employ a DJ on the weekends.

Ms. Sebastian states that they have done everything to benefit the community and this is their livelihood. Commissioner Rezendes states that he can appreciate the neighborhood has issues, but in the past two years you have been in front of this Board several times. Over the summer there was a shooting, and then someone caught inside your establishment with a gun now we see they have done four controlled buys of trafficking in your establishment. This tells me that your establishment has a stigma of unruliness, and I am afraid that this is escalating.

Mr. Sebastian "How can I control outside, and how do I know when someone is carrying a gun?" Chairman Rezendes asked if the manager was there for any of the controlled buys and when is management there?

Mr. Sebastian said "How do I know? I am in and out during the day. I have served 20+ customers no trespassing order."

Captain Justin Kagan from the New Bedford Police Department, said no trespassing orders were served after the raid had taken place.

Chairman Rezendes says hopefully you will start to see a change, but I feel you still need security. As explained to you in the past, security at the door would be checking identifications and would be able to maintain the activity of your customers.

Chairman Rezendes then read from the violation log (see attached) and stated that the Board needs to consider the safety of the public.

Mr. Sebastian stated that on Fridays and weekends the business closes between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.

Chairman Rezendes states "This board must consider the safety of the people in the bar and the neighborhood. If there are no further comments from the Board, I would entertain a motion."

Since you were still on probation, I propose an early closure of 12:00 a.m. for the period of ninety (90) days and a three (3) day suspension.

Commissioner McCue made the motion and Commissioner Dee seconded the motion. All in favor.

VOTED: early closure of 12:00 a.m. for the period of ninety (90) days and a three (3) day suspension.
 – **Unanimous**

Chairman Rezendes picked the days of suspension for May 8, 9, and 10, 2025. All in favor.

VOTED: days of suspension for May 8, 9, and 10, 2025. – **Unanimous**

Mr. Sebastian asked, “how should we feel as business owners that you pick the days to close us that we make the most money, the weekend.”

Chairman Rezendes stated Mr. Sebastian, we don’t want to hurt your business, but we are trying to prevent another tragedy from happening in our city. If you feel this is unfair you have the right to appeal this decision to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC).

Mr. Sebastian ended by stating “The Board must enjoy hurting local businesses by doing something like this. Why do you have to pick those three days?”

Chairman Rezendes stated that the hearing has been closed.

HEARING (3)

Taqueria La Raza, Inc.
 Ms. Iris De La Rosa, Manager/Owner
 1218 Acushnet Avenue
 New Bedford, MA. 02746

Your presence is requested at a hearing of the New Bedford Licensing Board. This hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in room #120, New Bedford City Hall.

The New Bedford Police Department has requested that you be brought before the Licensing Board, because of multiple noise complaints received from 1218 Acushnet Avenue. The intent of this hearing is to determine whether you have violated certain provisions of M.G. L., ABCC Regulations, and Licensing Board Rules and Regulations. Based on their findings, the Licensing Board may take action to modify, suspend, revoke, or cancel your license.

They are as follows:

ABCC Regulation 204 CMR 2.05: (2)-

States no licensee shall permit any illegality to occur on the licensed premises. The licensee is responsible, whether present or not, for ensuring that no disorder, disturbance, or illegality takes place in, or on a licensed premise.

Date and time of alleged violations: January 25 & 26, 2025, March 9 & 10, 2025 and March 15, 2025.

Please be advised, failure to appear at this meeting will result in immediate suspension of your liquor license until this matter is resolved.

Present: Attorney Chris Saunders and Iris De La Rosa Manager/Owner

Ms. De La Rosa has had this business at this location for almost six years and says that she has been playing music at the same level since she has had her entertainment license. She owns the building and lives in one of the apartments upstairs. Attorney Saunders noted that a couple of months ago she increased the rent, and he thinks it is one of her tenants retaliating. The noise complaints started in January 2025. The Board has five police reports regarding late night noise (music).

Ward 5 Councilor- Maria Giesta- stated that she has received one email and a call both regarding late-night music. It is her intention to be sure that both business owners and neighbors are happy, and she is sure this will be handled

correctly.

Commissioner McCue reminded Ms. De La Rosa on Saturday nights, entertainment should end at 12:00 a.m.

VOTED: To place Taqueria La Raza, Inc. on a ninety-day probation. – **Unanimous**

ADOPT CORI REVIEW POLICY FOR MANAGERS OF LODGING HOUSES.

The Licensing Board shall review Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) for manager, owner or operator of licensed lodging establishments applying the following Guidelines:

The following shall be disqualifying:

Any Felony Conviction within the last 10 years

Any conviction for distribution of illegal substances

Any conviction for prostitution, solicitation or sex for a fee

Any conviction for lewd or lascivious acts/indecent exposure/indecent assault

Any conviction for battery (domestic or otherwise)

Any Restraining Order violations

Any conviction for criminal harassment or stalking

Any conviction for child pornography/dissemination of material harmful to minors

Any conviction for firearms/weapons offenses

Any violations of Sex Offender Registry requirements

Chairman Rezendes asked to reword “battery” to “domestic battery.”

VOTED: To accept and adopt with the change. – **Unanimous**

REVIEW POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORTS/ COMPLAINTS.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POLICE REPORT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VIOLATION</u>
Morna Lounge	25-3015-OF	4/8/2025	Liquor Law Violation (Time of Violation 11:17 p.m.)

Morna Lounge was just allowed to reopen with an agreement early close of 10:00 p.m.

VOTED: To bring the owner into the next meeting to discuss. – **Unanimous**

NEXT MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, May 20th, at 6:00 P.M.

VOTED: Motion to adjourn. – **Unanimous**

MEETING ADJOURNED

The matters listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may, in fact, be discussed. Other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.