

City of Westfield, Massachusetts
LICENSE COMMISSION

Commissioners
Christopher Mowatt, Chr.
Edward Diaz
Alice Dawicki

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 COURT STREET
WESTFIELD, MA 01085
Phone 642-9302
Fax 572-6332

LICENSE COMMISSION
Monday, May 8, 2023
Municipal Building
59 Court Street, Westfield, MA
Council Chambers Room 207 6:00 PM

MINUTES

Meeting convened at 6:00 pm.

All Commissioners were present.

Upon motion of Chairman Mowatt, and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was unanimously VOTED: The License Commission minutes for March 13, 2023 be APPROVED.

The next License Commission meeting was scheduled for June 12, 2023.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

REGULAR MEETING

3. INFORMATIONAL HEARING for Krause, LLC d/b/a Gabe's 252, Gabriel Krause, owner, 252 Elm Street, Westfield, MA, regarding Police Incident Report #23-9560 and #23-8163, as well as an overall noise complaint relative to the establishment. Chairman Mowatt read the letter for informational hearing into the record. Gabriel Krause, owner and Zachery Stanhovsky, security, were present to represent Gabe's 252.

Zachery Stanhovsky stated the following:

- Wants to be respectful to the neighbors.
- Hired a new DJ last fall but has not done any major changes to his sound system.

- Makes sure that the doors stay shut to keep the noise contained between customers.
- Worked with Lieutenant Hall regarding noise level.
- Lieutenant Hall informed him that that even with the door open, they were below the max noise limit and that the noise levels decreased more significantly when the doors are closed.

Chairman Mowatt appreciated the actions that Gabriel Krause has been taking to keep the noise levels down. His thoughts were the complaint was about to the vibrations coming from the establishment.

Commissioner Dawicki asked if there is a possibility of adjusting the base level and added that the complaint was regarding the base.

Gabriel Krause stated that he will converse with the DJ on adjusting music settings to keeping the heavy base to a minimum.

Chairman Mowatt encouraged Gabriel Krause to keep an eye on the sub levels of the music being played. He added that the Entertainment License allows Gabe's to play music but to be aware of the noise levels.

Gabriel Krause stated he has been implementing changes and when issues do arise, he tries to fix them as soon as he can and come up with different ideas to resolve them.

Chairman Mowatt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Diaz, to go into deliberation.

DELIBERATION:

Chairman Mowatt stated that Zachery is taking whatever steps it takes to resolve this issue and Gabriel is aware of the issue. Chairman Mowatt advised Gabe's to pay attention to what's going on in the neighborhood and lower sub base levels.

Commissioner Diaz expressed his confusion regarding the noise complaint. He stated that Gabe's has never gotten any noise complaints until recently. His thoughts were perhaps it's the shops or apartments near Gabe's. Commissioner Diaz praised Gabe 252 with doing the right thing and was happy to know that Lieutenant Hall is also aware of the situation.

Chairman Mowatt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Diaz, to file the police incident report into the record.

4. PUBLIC HEARING on the application for a Transfer of an All Alcoholic General on Premises License, FROM: Whip City Patriot Inc., d/b/a The Whip, Zachary Stambovsky, manager, TO: Whip City Corp, Gregory Strattner, manager. Chairman Mowatt read the Public Hearing notice aloud. Bo Tangredi, Jeff Filamonte, Jacob Danek, Greg Strattner, were present to represent the application.

Bo Tangredi stated the following:

- Turned 70 in December. Decided it was time to retire.
- 46 years in bar business, 23 years of it with Westfield.

- Was grateful for the opportunity to serve Westfield.
- Had multiple buyers when he decided to hand the business over to neighboring business
- He chose the current owners because they will be keeping his current staff.
- Spoke very kindly about the new owners plans for the establishment.
- If any issues do arise for the new owners, staff, or the License Commission, he is a phone call away.

Jeff Filamonte stated he is the business manager with Jacob Danek and they are buying the real estate together.

Chairman Mowatt asked if they will be making any changes to the existing layout.

Jacob Danek stated the following:

- They will be refurbishing the property but keeping the same layout.
- Currently have a contracting flooring business.

Chairman Mowatt asked Greg Strattnr about his experience and if he is TIPS certified. Greg Strattnr stated that he has five years bar experience and as a general manager. He added that he is not TIPS certified.

Chairman Mowatt asked if other staff members at The Whip are TIPS certified, to which Bo added that a big part of his staff are TIPS certified.

Commissioner Dawicki asked the new owners if they plan to keep the same hours and the same menu.

Jacob Danek stated that they're planning to keep the same hours but will be updating the menu.

Commissioner Dawicki asked if they will be keeping the same security.

Jacob Danek stated they are seeking to add more security personnel.

Commissioner Diaz advised them to make sure their cameras are working and to protect their license and for them not to get complacent. He added that the former owners went through a lot and that their intentions were always great.

Chairman Mowatt encouraged them to;

- Sign the Articles of Organization
- Provide evidence and source of funding under Section 10 of the application, Financial Disclosure.
- Write down what "Other" funding is.

Commissioner Dawicki asked Jacob if he will be involved in daily operations of the establishment.

Jacob Danek replied that he will be there the majority of the time.

Chairman Mowatt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Diaz, to open it up to the public to speak in favor or opposition. No one spoke in favor or opposition of the application.

DELIBERATION:

Chairman Mowatt stated that the license transfer would be a really good transition from former owners to new owners. He is confident that from Jacobs plans, Greg's experience and understanding staff, it would be beneficial for everyone involved.

Commissioner Dawicki added that she would like to see Greg, manager, and his staff to be TIPS certified.

Commissioner Diaz informed the new owners that Westfield always had its challenges and to keep an eye out for trouble. He added that the last four years there was a pattern of behavior that when one bar goes down, everyone shifts over it.

Upon motion of Chairman Mowatt and duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was unanimously VOTED: to APPROVE the Transfer of License of an All Alcoholic General On-Premise License. FROM: Whip City Patriot Inc., d/b/a The Whip, Zachary Stambovsky, manager, TO: Whip City Corp, Gregory Strattner, manager.

Upon motion of Chairman Mowatt and duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was unanimously VOTED: to provide proof of TIPS certification of all staff that will be serving alcohol within 90 days of the approval of license.

Chairman Mowatt added that the things he noted on their application is for their interest only, it is not mandatory requirement to fix either of them, but that it is in their best interest to provide that information for ABCC.

5. APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT: Change of Manager for Starfires Concessions, LLC from Donald L. Moorehouse, manager, to Christopher Thompson, proposed Licensed Manager. Nobody present to represent Starfires. Chairman Mowatt read the letter from Christopher Thompson requesting a HOLD on his application due to an application CHANGE and will proceed with appropriate application. Application put on HOLD.

6. APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT: Change of Officers for 99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC d/b/a 99 Restaurant & Pub, 342 East Main Street. Nobody present to represent the application. Chairman Mowatt stated that at the local level, there are no changes but that they have been notified in corporate management changes.

Upon motion of Chairman Mowatt and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was unanimously VOTED: to APPROVE Change of Officers for 99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC d/b/a 99 Restaurant & Pub, 342 East Main Street.

7. Upon motion of Commissioner Mowatt, it was unanimously VOTED: that the following Section 14, One Day Licenses previously approved by the Chair, be APPROVED.

a. Westfield State Dining, Beer Garden, Spring Concert, 577 Western Avenue, William Connor, mgr, Saturday, April 22, 2023, 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM. Fee waived due to non-profit status.

8. Upon motion of Commissioner Mowatt it was unanimously VOTED: that the following Section 14, One Day Licenses be approved by the Commission, be APPROVED.

a. Westfield State Dining, Scanlon Banquet Hall, Dinner, 577 Western Avenue, William Connor, mgr, Thursday, May 11, 2023, 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Fee waived due to non-profit status.

b. Amelia Park Ice Arena, Indoor Ice Rink, 2nd Annual Corn hole Tournament, 21 South Broad Street, Billy Fellows, mgr, Saturday, May 13, 2023, 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Fee waived due to non-profit status.

9. POLICE INCIDENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Dawicki read the Police Incident Reports into the record.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, and duly seconded by Chairman Mowatt, it was unanimously VOTED: That the following reports be placed on file.

#23-10067 – Whip City Brew – 287 N Elm St – motion to file.

#23-10442 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – motion to file.

#23-10656 – Rally’s Sports Bar – 119 Meadow St – motion to file.

#23-10808 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – motion to file.

#23-10961 – Italian Club – 57 Katharine St – motion to file.

#23-11555 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St - motion to file.

#23-11573 – 7Bs Bar & Grill – 1152 Southampton Rd – motion to file.

#23-11721 –Elks Lodge – 56 Franklin St – motion to file.

#23-11731 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – motion to file.

#23-12230 - Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – Call in for INFORMATIONAL HEARING.

#23-12233 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – motion to file.

#23-12235 – Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – motion to file.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, and duly seconded by Chairman Mowatt, it was unanimously VOTED: To schedule Gabe 252 – 252 Elm St – Gabriel Krause, manager, for an INFORMATIONAL HEARING regarding Police Incident Report #23-12230 dated April 28, 2023.

At 7:15 pm and upon motion of Chairman Mowatt and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was unanimously VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A True Record, Attest:

Valentina Rafalskiy

Head Licensing Clerk



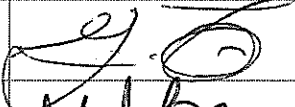

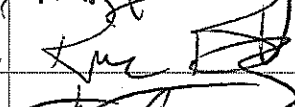

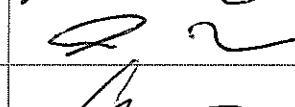


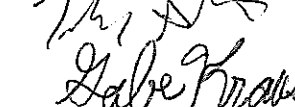

Christopher Mowatt, Chair

*WESTFIELD LICENSE COMMISSIONS MISSION STATEMENT IS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC
NEED AND PROTECT THE COMMON GOOD OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF
WESTFIELD, BY ENSURING THAT ALL LICENSES GOVERNED BY THE COMMISSION
OPERATE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.*

LICENSE COMMISSION MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Meeting Date: May 8TH 2023

Place/Room: @ 6:00 PM

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
Gary Francis		Burdett St. Westfield	
Mike Bealy		Westfield	
Roxann Bradley		Westfield, MA	
Bo Tangredi		Otis MA	
John Filanna		Westfield MA	
Jacob Dink		Westfield MA	
Oreg Shrothman		48 Maria Circ. Westfield MA	
Zachary Stanowski		145 Louis Rd Spfld, MA	
Gabriel Krause		142 South Longyrd Southwick MA	

