

**Woburn License Commission
Woburn City Hall
Committee Room – 5:30 p.m.
June 21, 2018**

Voting Members: Chairman Thomas Skeffington and Commissioner David Gilgun.

Chairman Skeffington convened the special meeting of the License Commission at 5:30 p.m.

Also present: Woburn Police Capt. John Murphy

Shamrock Running Club, application for special 1-day liquor license for a road race, at Spence Farm, 41 Wyman St., on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Appearing for the petitioner was Dirk Slagmolen, 4 Forest Park Road, Woburn, MA. Mr. Slagmolen is the President of the Shamrock Running Club. Mr. Slagmolen said this is the 7th or 8th annual event and it will be held this year at Spence Farm, after it was moved last year to Gonsalves Park. He said there will be 200-300 people participating in the road race and the event will probably end around 3 p.m. as participants head out to their own Fourth of July parties. He said the race starts at 10 a.m., preceded by a kids' walk at 9 a.m. and a health walk at 9:30 a.m. Chairman Skeffington asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Commission about the petition. There were no respondents. Chairman Skeffington said the Shamrock Running Club puts on a great event and does an impeccable job, and wished Mr. Slagmolen best of luck with this year's race. Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to grant the license and waive the \$50 application fee; approved, 2-0.

Applications for special 1-day liquor licenses from Lord Hobo Brewing Co., 5 Draper St.: Representing the petitioner was Attorney Mark Salvati, 10 Cedar St., Suite 26, Woburn, MA. Attorney Salvati said the area where alcohol is served will be in the back and fenced off. He said patrons will be allowed access to the bathrooms in the brewery. Chairman Skeffington asked if there will be a tent. Attorney Salvati said there will be a tent. Chairman Skeffington said he inquired with the ABCC and was told that Lord Hobo cannot self-distribute the alcohol it intends to serve under the auspices of a 1-day license, and that Lord Hobo needs to purchase alcohol from its distributor. Chairman Skeffington asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Commission about the petitions. There were no respondents. Chairman Skeffington asked Attorney Salvati to advise his client to be cognizant of the neighbors. Motion made by Member Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to take the petitions collectively and grant the licenses for the following dates and times; approved, 2-0: Friday, June 29, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, June, 30, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, July, 1, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, July 6, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 7, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, July, 8, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, July 13, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 14, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, July, 15, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, July 20, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 21, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, July, 22, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, July 27, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 28, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, July, 29, from 12-6 p.m., Friday, August 3, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, August 4, from 12-10 p.m., Sunday, August 5, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, August 10 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, August 11, 12 p.m-10 p.m. Sunday, August 12, from 12-6 p.m.; Friday, August 17, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, August 18, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, August 19, from 12-6 p.m., Friday, August 24, from 4-10 p.m.;

Saturday, August 25, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, August 26, from 12-6 p.m., Friday, August 31, from 4-10 p.m.; Saturday, September 1, from 12-10 p.m.; Sunday, September 2, from 12-6 p.m.

Central Grill & Café, 315 Main St, application for beer and wine license (continued from May 24, 2018 meeting): Chairman Skeffington asked if anyone was present to represent the petitioner. There were no respondents. Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to table the matter; approved, 2-0.

Sons of Italy, 168 Lexington St., update on status of liquor license: Appearing for the Sons of Italy was manager David Blouin and President Robert Thomas. Mr. Blouin said the Sons of Italy is currently looking for a new venue and they have a couple of places in mind. Chairman Skeffington advised Mr. Blouin and Mr. Thomas that cannot hold a pocket license in Woburn, and that the Sons of Italy has a social club license and there are not any social clubs banging on the door to get back in. Commissioner Gilgun asked how earnestly the club has been looking for new premises. Mr. Thomas aid they looked at two places today. Chairman Gilgun asked if the Commission can put the liquor license in abeyance until a new location is found by the Sons of Italy. He said the Sons of Italy can come in to re-activate the license when the new premises are approved. Chairman Skeffington asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Commission about the petition. There were no respondents. Chairman Skeffington asked Mr. Blouin and Mr. Thomas to keep the Commission in the loop. He said he does not want to take the Sons of Italy's license. He asked Mr. Thomas and Mr. Blouin to let the Commission and the Clerk of the Commission know what's going on.

Crest View Plaza, 36 Montvale Ave., update on status of liquor license: Chairman Skeffington said there is correspondence dated June 19, 2018, from Crest View Plaza manager Michael DeRienzo. Commissioner Gilgun asked the Clerk of the Commission to read the letter from Mr. DeRienzo, as follows: "This letter is to inform all of you that (as) of June 30, 2018, Gourmet Family Banquet, dba Crest View Plaza of 36 Montvale Avenue in Woburn MA will be dissolving its corporation. We were trying to figure out what we were going to do with our business as we didn't want to close for good, but we with all that has gone on we have no choice but to close. Per the Massachusetts legislature by a Home Rule Petition of the City Council that was issued in 2014 it is required by us to return the Liquor License at the end of conducting business and return it back to the Woburn License Commission as it has no value towards our existing business in any future rental of property, or sale of assets. There was some confusion at the beginning of when we were figuring out what we were going to do with the space, we thought because the license stays with 36 Montvale Ave it was ours to transfer, that isn't true; with that said, we want to let you know we are working with a company that wants to take over the space at 36 Montvale Avenue and they were instructed by us when asked about the Liquor License that they would have to get in touch with the City of Woburn License Commission as Gourmet Family Banquet does not own the license it was issued special to us. It was not an easy decision to close down Crest View, but we haven't been able to maintain consistent business to stay ahead, and each day we have fallen behind. It has been hard to keep up with the corporate hotels that are able to stay current in décor, and of course the parking in the Walnut Street Municipal lot is next to impossible. We do appreciate everybody in the city support back in 2014 when we were working to reopen Crest View, especially when it came to receiving the Full Liquor License back in 2014. If you should have any questions you may contact Sharon Valerio,

President of Gourmet Family Banquet Inc. at (phone number redacted). Again, from all of us at Crest View we thank you, and appreciate all the work those in the city have done with us. Respectfully, Michael C. DeRienzo, Gourmet Family Banquet, Inc.” Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to rescind Crest View Plaza’s liquor license as of June 30, 2018. Chairman Skeffington noted the liquor license was approved by Home Rule Petition and asked if it is specific to the address or the business. Capt. Murphy said the license is specific to the address. Motion approved, 2-0.

Fortunato’s Restaurant, 428 Main Street, request for extension of hours: Appearing was Fortunato Conte, manager of Fortunato’s Restaurant. Mr. Conte said as of July 20 he will have been in business for one year that the 428 Main Street location and he would like to try being open for lunch. Chairman Skeffington said if Mr. Conte wants to extend his hours, business must be going well. Mr. Conte said business has been OK for the first year. He said food service is a tough business but it has been pretty consistent. He said his two best months so far were January and February. Chairman Skeffington asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the commission about the petition. There were no respondents. Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to grant the change of hours request to Fortunato’s Restaurant, 428 Main Street, as follows: Tuesday-Friday & Sunday 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-9 p.m.; and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-10 p.m. on Saturday; approved 2-0. Chairman Skeffington reminded Mr. Conte he cannot serve alcohol until noon on Sunday. Mr. Conte replied he does not intend to sell alcohol until 4 p.m. on Sunday. He said the new hours will go into effect in mid-July.

Approval of minutes from meetings of May 24, 2018, and June 7, 2018: Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to accept the minutes as presented; approved, 2-0.

Status of Common Victualer’s licenses: Clerk of the Commission said there are still five CV licenses outstanding – Elks Café, 809 Tipico, which the clerk said he believes is not yet open for business, Crest View Plaza, D’Angelo’s and Dunkin’ Donuts, 880 Main Street. The clerk said since the May meeting three applications have been received – W Café, Panera Bread and Krispy Krunchy Chicken. Chairman Skeffington noted the Elks received a special 1-day license at the May meeting for an event, with approval contingent upon submission of the paperwork for the Common Vic license. Clerk advised Chairman Skeffington the event is on Sept. 29 and the 1-day license is located in the vault in the City Clerk’s office and will not be issued until the Common Vic paperwork is received.

Central Grill & Café, 315 Main St, application for beer and wine license (continued from May 24, 2018 meeting): Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to take the matter from the table; approved, 2-0. Appearing for the petitioner was Momisrebe Da Silva, 56 Campbell Street, owner of Central Grill & Café. Mr. Da Silva apologized for being late. Chairman Skeffington advised Mr. Da Silva that showing up late to a meeting when he has applied for a beer and wine license is not a good way to start. Mr. Da Silva said it has been tough for him because he is doing everything himself. Chairman Skeffington asked if Mr. Da Silva already has so much to do, will he be able to handle the responsibility of a beer and wine license. Mr. Da Silva said he thinks he can. Chairman Skeffington noted the

License Commission received a memo dated June 7, 2018, from Building Commission Thomas Quinn, which reads as follows: "With regard to the above-referenced (address), a site visit was done on May 31, 2018, to review the seating plan and I would advise that the plan complies with the egress and occupancy requirements. The business owner is required to provide a minimum of 5 percent accessible seating 521 CMR 17.2 which is in place and also the area near the bar has accessible tables that is in compliance with 521 CMR 17.4. I would ask that if the License Commission approves the applicant's request for a new beer and wine license that a copy of the floor plan of record be sent to my office so it can be used during required inspections to ensure there has not been any change or increase in seating. As always, if I can be of any further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me." Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun to grant the beer and wine license. Commissioner Gilgun said told Mr. Da Silva he needs to be more cooperative. He said when Mr. Da Silva is asked for more information, Mr. Da Saliva should provide it in a timely manner. Commissioner Gilgun advised Mr. Da Silva that when he is asked to attend a License Commission meeting that begins at 5:30 p.m., he should be in the room at 5:30 p.m. Motion to grant the beer and wine license to Central Grill & Café; approved, 2-0.

Any other matters before the License Commission: Chairman Skeffington acknowledged receipt of a memorandum dated June 19, 2018, from the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission regarding a request from the Towanda Club, 19 Abbott Street, for a Keno license. Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to grant the request for a Keno license to the Towanda Club; approved, 2-0. Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington that the commission receive and place on file a list of TIPS certified bartenders from the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 70 Montvale Ave., Woburn. Chairman Skeffington said he thinks going forward the Commission should request and place on file lists of TIPS certified bartenders. He said Burlington, Winchester and Stoneham among others keep lists of TIPS certified bartenders, and that information is requested whenever applicants file petitions. Chairman Skeffington said this will be good information to have on hand.

Motion made by Commissioner Gilgun and seconded by Chairman Skeffington to adjourn; approved, 2-0. Chairman Skeffington adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD

Gordon Vincent
Clerk of Committees