

ALCOHOL CONTROL COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

The Alcohol Control Commission met at 5:00 p.m. this date in the City Commission Chambers of City Hall, 601 Broad Street. Monica Sheppard, Chair, was present along with John Kendrick, Harold Morgan, Billy Cooper, and Commissioner Randy Quick. Steve VanMeter was absent. Assistant City Attorney Stephen Moseley and Major Paul Webber were also present.

Minutes – November 15, 2021

The minutes of the November 15, 2021 meeting, as submitted in writing by the Secretary, were approved by unanimous consent.

Little Garden 101, 1901 Dean Avenue

The application of Dhaval Parmar, owner, and manager of Little Garden 101, 1901 Dean Avenue, was presented. Mr. Parmar requested that a new Beer and Wine Package License be issued to him at that location. Secretary Smith explained this was the location of Roy's Little Garden for many years and also the home more recently of Rick's Little Garden. However, this site has been vacant for several months. Mr. Parmar explained that renovations are underway at this site, and he hopes to be ready for a reopening in March of 2022. Mr. Parmar also explained that he is the owner and operator of the Chevron convenient store on Turner McCall Boulevard near the 5th Avenue intersection. He plans to be open from 6 a.m. till 11 p.m. each day with three primary employees and will use employees from his other facility if needed. Mr. Parmar further explained that his cash register system will require a date of birth for all tobacco and alcohol purchases. Mr. Parmar has had no alcohol violations at his Chevron convenient store.

Mr. Kendrick moved to approve the Beer and Wine Package License at Little Garden 101, 1901 Dean Avenue, as requested, subject to all final inspections and approvals by the City Building Official, Fire Marshal, and Traffic Engineer. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Kingfisher Art Company LLC, 7 East 2nd Avenue

The application of Ms. Cameron Cook, owner, and operator of Kingfisher Art Company LLC, 7 East 2nd Avenue, was presented. Ms. Cook requested that a new Beer and Wine Pouring License be issued to her at that location. Secretary Smith explained that this property is located in downtown Rome in the Central Business Commercial Zoning District, and this will be the first alcohol license at this location.

Ms. Cook explained that this business is an art gallery; however, she would like to offer beer and wine at certain art events and allow customers to consume during "sip and

paint” events. Ms. Cook may also rent this space out for special events where alcohol could be consumed.

Ms. Cook was cautioned about the proper service of alcohol including situations where the customers may bring their own alcohol. Steps should be taken to ensure that there is no underage sales or consumption.

Mr. Kendrick moved to approve the Beer and Wine Pouring License request as submitted. Mr. Morgan seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Alcohol Ordinance Amendment – Wine Pouring and Consumption Hours

Mr. Andrew Wright, owner, and operator of Eggs Up Grill, located in the East Bend Shopping Center, was present. Mr. Wright has recently been approved for a City of Rome Beer and Wine Pouring License. Mr. Wright was present to request that the Alcohol Control Commission consider amending the allowed hours of wine pouring and wine consumption. Presently, wine cannot be poured or consumed until 10 a.m. – the same time established for distilled spirits consumption. However, beer may be poured and consumed beginning at 6 a.m. The request before the ACC is to consider recommending that the wine pouring and consumption hours be amended to coincide with beer pouring hours. Mr. Wright would like to be able to serve champagne and mimosa drinks before 10 a.m.

After some discussion by the ACC members, Mr. Kendrick moved to recommend that the City Commission adopt an ordinance amendment which would alter the wine pouring and consumption hours from 10 a.m. until 6 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor. Sunday pouring hours are established by State Law (and local referendum) and are currently set at 11 a.m. The City Commission does not have the authority to amend the Sunday pouring hours.

This ordinance recommendation will be presented to the City Commission for First Reading at their January 24th meeting. It will be scheduled for Second Reading and vote on February 14th. Mr. Wright was invited to attend the City Commission meeting regarding this recommendation.

Police Report

Rome Police Major Paul Webber was present and presented a police report for the previous two months. Major Webber commented on one incident of underage consumption that occurred at Peaches, 325 Broad Street. Major Webber stated that the security guard at Peaches called the Rome Police Department after a person underage was discovered to be consuming alcohol. The Police Department’s investigation did not reveal any evidence of a violation by Peaches’ employees. The alcohol could have been furnished to the individual by someone of age who purchased it. Major Webber stated the security guard at Peaches handled this matter appropriately.

Adjourned

With there being no further business, Chair Sheppard adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Joseph F. Smith
City Clerk