

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OPEN SESSION
ILLINOIS LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION**

**Richard J. Daley Center
50 West Washington**

Suite 209

October 13th, 2021

1:00 PM

Call the Roll:

Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner</i>
Thomas Gibbons	<i>Commissioner</i>
Julieta LaMalfa	<i>Commissioner</i>
Donald O'Connell	<i>Commissioner</i>
Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner</i>
Patricia Pulido-Sanchez	<i>Commissioner</i>
Cynthia Berg	<i>Chair</i>

Also Present:

Tom Schlenhardt	<i>Associate Director</i>
Les Peterson	<i>Chief Enforcement Officer</i>
Dusanka Marijan	<i>Licensing Administrator</i>
Michelle Flagg	<i>Industry Education</i>
Jason Youngberg	<i>I.T. Manager</i>
Noel Quanbeck	<i>General Counsel</i>
Avi Zisook	<i>Legal</i>
Rick Haymaker	<i>Legal</i>
Dean Argiris	<i>Acting Commission Secretary</i>

I. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the minutes of the August 18th, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell.

The motion passed unanimously.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Donald O'Connell	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Patricia Pulido-Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

II. Executive Director's Report

The ILCC's move to the Daley Center is now complete. Commission meetings will be in person and all are welcomed to attend.

We have seen a 46% increase of new licenses issued since last year.

To meet the increase, the ILCC has hired two new licensing assistants that will start in November and we will be hiring a third for the Springfield Office.

As for Covid-19 related, liquor license renewal extensions, those will expire by December of this year.

With the v12 of Gentax being implemented, the ILCC has posted instructions on our website to help license holders navigate the system.

We will be putting out an R.F.I. to replace Gentax. Gentax is a revenue based system and is cumbersome for our ILCC needs.

HR is processing the applications for new agent applicants, so that they can move on to the next phase of the hiring process.

As for legal, we have 35 Sales of Alcohol to Minor cases pending in Springfield.

CMS is approving a Chief of Internal Affairs position for the ILCC.

Telework policy is currently being negotiated with AFSCME but has been implemented. Licensing staff is in the office full time, everyone else is on a 3-day hybrid schedule.

III. Division Reports

Enforcement continues to continue its online monitoring of illegal sales.

On investigations, a Special Agent was contacted by municipal police about an illegal venue with B.Y.O.B. A felony warrant was issued to the owner of the club due to two shootings at the establishment.

Industry Education announced that the annual College-Town Summit for October 21st. Registration is online.

October 28th is the ILCC's first server training on Human Trafficking.

Legal provided an update on pending appeals and other cases. Lebamoff was dismissed by the plaintiffs voluntarily.

United States Supreme Court did not hear the Sarasota Wine Case against Missouri.

Legal continues to reduce its backlog of cases and we have increase the amount of appeals cases to be heard each month.

Licensing mentioned that we have had over 300 walk-ins and online renewals are still being utilized which is great to see.

Special Event licenses and new licenses tend to be our largest walk-ins. With special events, we are returning to pre-Covid levels for Special Events licenses. Organizers are still turning in applications last minute and the ILCC works hard to get them turned around right away, but we are continuing to work with municipalities to review and get them to us in a timely manner.

VII. State of the Industry

Sam Toia from the Illinois Restaurant Association gave a summary of the industry, their objectives, membership, philanthropic program, and how the industry is fairing during Covid-19.

VII. Public Comment

None

VIII. Appeals & License Revocation/Tac Cases

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SBX Management Corp. d/b/a. Skybox Steak and Sports Bar v. City of Harvey

A motion to dismiss was made by Commissioner O’Connell and seconded by Commissioner Powell.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Donald O’Connell	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Patricia Pulido-Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

22-SR-0003 – *Mis Tres Potrillos Mexican Restaurant, Inc.*

A motion was made to revoke the license beginning November 6th, 2021, for failure to file tax returns by Commissioner O’Connell and Commissioner Powell.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Donald O’Connell	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Patricia Pulido-Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

22-SR-0002 – *Café Billiards, LLC*

A motion was made to revoke the license beginning November 6th, 2021 for failure to pay sales use tax by Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez and seconded by Powell.

Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes	Thomas Gibbons	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Donald O’Connell	Yes
Steven Powell	Yes	Patricia Pulido-Sanchez	Yes
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

IX. Comments from the Board

None

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment to Hearing

- a. Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez made a motion to adjourn and we seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

/S/ Dean Argiris, Acting Commission Secretary