

**Meeting Minutes
Board of License Commissioners
Caroline County, Maryland**

DATE: August 26, 2020

PLACE: Virtually on Microsoft Teams

BOARD MEMBERS: Greg Eigenbrode, Chairman
Nicholas Loukides, Vice-Chair
Glen Plutschak, Member
Mike Mann, Alternate

OTHERS PRESENT: Phillip Moore, Alcoholic Beverage Inspector
Crystal Dadds, Assistant Director of Codes
Melanie Smith, Board’s Administrative Asst.
Heather Price, County Attorney

Chairmen Eigenbrode called the meeting of the Caroline County Board of License Commissioners to order at 9:35 AM.

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER

Preston Super Soda/Chokshi, Inc – 101 Maple Avenue, Preston, MD

Chairman Eigenbrode read the Notice of Public Hearing into the record:

A request by Jaymin Patel, Parth Patel and Pratik Patel for the use of CHOKSHI, INC. t/a PRESTON SUPER SODA, located at 101 Maple Avenue, Preston, MD for a transfer, class a – beer, wine & liquor (retail), 7–day off premise sales alcoholic beverage license.

Chairman Eigenbrode swore in:

Parth Patel, 101 Maple Ave, Preston, MD
Pratik Patel, 101 Maple Ave, Preston, MD
Jaymin Patel, 308 Wood Duck Drive, Greensboro, MD
Manish & Pallavi Patel, 1796 Windswept Circle, Dover, DE 19901

Ms. Dadds read the Exhibit List into the record:

- 1 Notice of Public Hearing Published in the Times Record on August 12th & 19th
- 2 Transfer Application

- 3 Applicant's Hearing Notice
- 4 Site Photographs Submitted with Application
- 5 TiPS Certificates
- 6 Article of Incorporation
- 7 State Acceptance of Article of Incorporation
- 8 Election of Officers/Issuance of Stock
- 9 Bylaws
- 10 Consent Form to Transfer
- 11 Proof of Voter Registration for Jaymin Patel
- 12 Staff Report

Bob Thornton was the Attorney for Jaymin, Parth and Pratik Patel. Jaymin Patel is the resident license holder. The establishment registered as Purev has been in existence since 1997. The applicants are aware of the requirements of license holders in Caroline County. Mr. Thornton has encouraged them to card anyone who purchases alcohol.

Parth Patel, President of Choksi Inc, has never held a liquor license. Manish Patel is a family friend and Parth Patel has been training in the store for the last three months. They intend to keep the existing hours. Mr. Thornton reminded them that "Off Premise" means the patrons cannot open the drink inside the building nor in the parking lot. Parth Patel is familiar with the Rules & Regulations. They have all received their TiPS certification.

Manish Patel is waiting for a response today from Anne Ogletree about the real estate and business transfer. Inventory will be taken Thursday night for the bulk sale transfer and they will close their business, Purev, as of Friday. There are requirements on a list that will be a condition of approval.

Pratik Patel stated that he has also trained for the last three months. He is the Vice-President of Choksi Inc.

Mr. Plutschak asked about the outstanding items listed in Exhibit 12. Ms. Dadds explained that the documents are typically a condition of approval. The applicant has 30 days from today, if the application is approved, to submit them and pick up their license.

Ms. Dadds explained that she spoke with Jaymin Patel about the petition that is required. He must have at least 10 citizens sign that they both own property in Caroline County and are registered voters in the County. The one they submitted did not comply. Submitting a legitimate petition will be a condition of approval.

Ms. Dadds added that Ms. Price had reviewed the corporation documents and they need a fully executed copy on file. She pointed out that Mr. Thornton needed to put his signature on the documents. Ms. Price was also concerned that they have not met the pecuniary interest as defined in the Rules & Regulations §1.08. Ms. Dadds read the code. Mr. Thornton stated that Jaymin Patel should have been included in the figure. He noted that the remaining 10% is the

issue and he assured the Board that this can be accomplished within the required time. Ms. Price thanked Mr. Thornton.

Mr. Plutschak reviewed the conditions of approval and agreed that they have met all the requirements as written in Rules & Regulations §4-210. They have been in business for over 20 years and they have been a good business.

Mr. Mann remembered them being in violation for not having records available for inspection. Ms. Smith read the violations which occurred two years ago and was immediately resolved and a fine was paid.

Motion: Mr. Plutschak made a motion to approve the license transfer on the conditions that all the outstanding items listed in Exhibit 12 are met.

Second: Mr. Loukides seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

Motion: Mr. Plutschak made a motion to amend the motion to also require the 12 valid signatures on petition and the pecuniary interest is resolved.

Second: Mr. Loukides seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

Ms. Dadds advised Mr. Thornton that they can scan the remaining documents to her office.

REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY LICENSE

Downtown Denton Main Street– Supper at Sunset – September 26

Ms. Dadds presented the request on behalf of Audrey Clemens. This is for the Supper at Sunset event on September 26th from 5-10 PM. It will be held on the lawn of the Chesapeake Culinary Center for adults 21 years of age and older. They will give out wrist bands and advise everyone to be prepared to be carded. They have a rain date of September 27 from 6-9 PM. They will serve a four-course dinner with a wine tasting by Triple Creek Winery. They will have a cash bar that serves beer and wine and they will have live dinner music. The Health Department has approved their event and they will follow all Covid guidelines.

The Board agreed that this has always been a nice event.

Motion: Mr. Loukides made a motion to approve the temporary alcoholic beverage license for the September 26th dinner at the Culinary Center in Denton.

Second: Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.

In Favor: All members voted in favor (3-0).

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

July 1, 2020 Minutes

Having read the July minutes, the Board voted.

- Motion:** Mr. Loukides made a motion to approve the July 1, 2020 meeting minutes as written.
- Second:** Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.
- In Favor:** All members voted in favor (3-0).

INSPECTORS REPORT

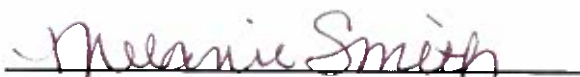
Chairman Eigenbrode asked about the Roadhouse 313 Warning Letter included in the Boards package. Ms. Dadds explained that Inspector Moore found Roadhouse 313 in violation of Rule 2.20 (b) Gambling/Games of Chance or Skill/Drinking Games - *a licensee, owner, manager, operator or employee may not allow the establishment to be used for any illegal gambling activity*. Ms. Dadds believed that they were doing something similar for the Leukemia Foundation fundraiser, which, because it is a nonprofit organization, was in compliance with the Rules.

Inspector Moore reported that he has conducted routine inspections. The Governor ordered that County Inspectors should ensure compliance with the Covid directives, so Inspector Moore has been watching for those violations. Inspector Moore had several warning letters to present to the Board at the next meeting. He recalled having four letters; most were old due to the Covid situation.

Chairman Eigenbrode asked for a status of Fat Ricky's business; he added that the word is that they are closed. Inspector Moore suspected that they have been closed for more than 10 days. They closed for Covid and then opened a little while and closed again. Chairman Eigenbrode asked that the Inspector keep an eye on the establishment.

DISCUSSION

- Motion:** Mr. Loukides made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 AM.
- Second:** Mr. Plutschak seconded the motion.
- In Favor:** All members voted in favor (3-0).


Minutes prepared by: Melanie Smith