



Licensing Board Meeting
Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:15 PM
Administration Building 149 Main Street Third Floor
Conference Room

August 21, 2025 Minutes

1. Call to Order – **7:26PM**
2. Roll Call – Chair Sandra Kasabian Hoffman, Board member John Labadini, City Attorney Tom McEnaney , City Clerk Noelle Gilligan, Detective Sargeant Mark Lewis
3. Acceptance of July 17, 2025 Minutes – **Accepted as written**

4. One Day Events

- A. Watertown Police Relief Association Kenneth Swift
Arsenal Yards Area
5k Road Race | September 21, 2025

Approved 2 - 0

Kenneth Swift appeared to present the application. This is the 10th annual event for this organization. Start at Arsenal Yards to Arsenal to Irving to Mt Auburn to School and end at Arsenal Yards, no roads, sidewalks only, no alcohol, expects 300-500 participants. The race will be over the approximate period of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Building, Health and Fire Departments and the Zoning Enforcement Officer had no comment on the application. Sgt. Lewis stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

5. Special One Day Events

- A. Nirva Fereshetian
St James Church - 465 Mt Auburn St
Family Gathering | August 30, 2025

Approved 2 - 0

Nirva Fereshetian presented the application. It is for a family gathering at church hall, mostly adults, using a caterer to serve food and alcohol. Sandra confirmed all required documents were submitted. Sandra inquired on underage prevention – Aleks (caterer) will be checking for underage and IDing guests.

The Building, Health and Fire Departments and the Zoning Enforcement Officer had no objections/comments on the application. Sgt. Lewis stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

- B. Greater Boston Nepali Community
Ajaya Dhakal
ACEC - 47 Nichols Ave
Cultural Event | August 23, 2025

Ajaya Dhakal presented the application. It is a fundraising event for the Greater Boston Nepali Community. Sandra confirmed all required documents were submitted. Ajaya confirmed they will also have second bartender and will look into obtaining wristbands for underage.

The Building, Health and Fire Departments and the Zoning Enforcement Officer had no objections/comment on the application. Sgt. Lewis stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

- C. The Tigrean Community Center Inc Johannes Tesfai
ACEC - 47 Nichols Ave
Fundraising Event | September 13, 2025

Approved 2 - 0

Johannes Tesfai presented the application. He spoke about his background, first time applicant, tickets are sold upfront and at the door. John asked about wristbands – Johannes will obtain and issue wristbands for under 21. At this time they are unsure if food will be served – Noelle advised if they do, they will need to obtain proper permits as well if guests will bring food to be served and advised them to discuss with health as it will depend on how it is being prepared and health will advise.

The Building, Health and Fire Departments and the Zoning Enforcement Officer had no objection/comment on the application. Sgt. Lewis stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

6. License Applications

- A. Medium Rare
Vanessa Quintero
107 Bond Square
Temp Extension of Premises | September 10, 2025

Approved 2 - 0

Samantha presented the application in lieu of Vanessa Quintero. She explained the event is connected with Arsenal Yards Arsenal Jazz Fest and has their support and is extending the premise for this event only. Sandra confirmed they are just adding 15 seats to existing outdoor dining and asked how they intend to control the area, Samantha confirmed they will have police detail on site.

The Building, Health and Fire Departments and the Zoning Enforcement Officer had no objections/comments on the application. Sgt. Lewis stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

7. Additional comments by Police and Board

A. Discuss changes to meeting day or the week and time

Approved 2 - 0

Noelle spoke of the proposal regarding changing from the Third Thursdays at 7:15pm to the third Monday of each month at 5:30pm. Sandra suggested 6:00pm so abutters would have time to attend. John agrees and voted to move forward with change. Noelle spoke on behalf of John Bartley as he was unable to attend tonight's meeting, per their prior discussion, he agreed to move to Mondays and would approve the 6:00pm time and day of the week change.

Voted to make change: Hearings will be on the third Monday on each month and the those that fall on holidays will be moved to the Monday prior. Starting date will be October 20th

8. Adjourn – **8:23PM**



Sandra Kasabian Hoffman, Chair
Approved on September 18, 2025