

# Licensing Board Meeting

## November 20, 2025 Minutes

1. Call to Order – **6:00 PM**
2. Roll Call – Chair Sandra Kasabian Hoffman, Board member John Bartley, Jimmy Tsekrekas, City Attorney Michael D'Ortenzio, and Detective Sargeant Mark Lewis
3. One Day Events

**JD Donohue Donohue's Bar & Grill  
87 Bigelow Avenue  
Annual Road Race | November 27, 2025**

JD Donahue spoke - Thanksgiving Day is our 20th anniversary, our annual, uh, Donahue's Turkey Trot supporting the Watertown Boys and Girls Club and a couple other Watertown charities. Um, roughly 1400 runners will be participating at 8 a.m., running through the streets of Watertown, down Arsenal Street to Irving. Back up Mount Auburn Street to Bigelow Ave. Finishing. Starting and finishing in front of Donahue's Bar and Grill at 87 Bigelow Ave.

Building fire, health and zoning have no objection, Police no objection to the applicant's request for a road race, standard stipulations applied.

**Approved 3-0**

4. **Special Requests**

**Buttermilk & Bourbon  
100 Arsenal Yards Blvd  
One Day Extension of Hours November 26, 2025 | 2:00AM**

Rick Burdett, Director of Operations confirmed this is a private event and they are requesting just an extension of hours. The building. Fire, health and zoning departments have no comments. The Police department has investigated the applicant's request and has no objection to the change in the hours of operation. Provided the only stipulation of the license. The new hours of operation shall be for one day on 11 November 26th, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. into November 27th, 2025.

**Approved 3-0**

5. Special One Day Events

**Friends of Mt Auburn Cemetary  
580 Mt Auburn St (Cambridge)  
Solstice Event | Various December Dates**

Zollo Brandon spoke on the event, projection mapping onto our the facades of our chapel. We have a lantern walk and then part of the event experience is our VIP experience called the Elevated Ticket Experience, which is what we're seeking the alcohol provision for. The public can who have purchased the elevated ticket will check in at a specialized check intent. So we'll have our main check

intent for our general admission and a separate check intent for our VIPs. Um, once they check in at that tent, they'll receive a wristband which grants them access to the administration building where the VIP experience is held. There will be someone checking for wristbands at the door, and then when they enter, they'll receive two drink tickets and we will have Oven Bird. We'll have three staff members who are tip certified, and they will be carting at the bar to make sure that if there are any underage VIP members that you know, they're not receiving alcoholic beverages.

Building, Fire, Health and Zoning no comments or objections, Police have no objection, standard stipulations applied

**Approved 3-0**

**Armenian Cultural and Education Center  
80 Bigelow Ave  
Celebration | November 28, 2025**

Armen Khachaturian November 28th, we're hosting a social gathering of approx..100 people, but it's looking more about 40 to 50 people. Um, to have a social gathering after Thanksgiving, after before the real holiday start. And, um, to also fundraise for the for the Armenian Culture and Educational Center. Checking ID's and will have bracelets. Building, Fire, Health and Zoning no comments or objections, Police have no objection, standard stipulations applied

**Approved 3-0**

**Armenian Cultural and Educational Center  
80 Bigelow Ave  
New Year's Eve Celebration | December 31, 2025**

Armen Khachaturian New Year's Eve celebration, over 21 bracelets provided. Building, Fire, Health and Zoning no comments or objections, Police have no objection, standard stipulations applied.

6. Review License Application

PAHA Corporation dba Caspian Persian Cuisine  
72 Bigelow Ave  
BYOB

Building, Fire, Health and Zoning no comment, Police have no objection, standard stipulations will apply.

**Continued to December 18th, 2025 meeting at 6 p.m.**

7. Continuation of Show Cause Hearings and Potential License Cancellation

**Hand Made Brands dba Deluxe Town Diner  
627 Mt Auburn St  
Wine and Malt License**

Continuation of a show cause hearing regarding a certificate of insurance has been resolved, COI issued.

**Ole Tapas LLC dba Olespana Whiskey & Tapas  
645 Mt Auburn St  
All Alcohol Common Victualer License**

Attorney Tyler Hensley for OleTapas, June 15th, was originally intended to be a temporary closure of the restaurant for personal medical needs. But when it turned out that it would indeed be a longer absence, the owner, Peter started that process of finding a buyer. the intent is to for the owner to not open, but to sell.

**Recommendation to continue this hearing till Until December 20<sup>th</sup> on the condition that an application is not filed. If application has been filed continuation is not needed.**

**Shiraz Cuisine Inc dba Shiraz Cuisine  
72 Bigelow Ave  
All Alcohol Common Victualer License**

Ben from the public spoke, states he believes Shiraz has written to ABC and transferred the license. Attorney explained the license can't be transferred without action of this board, until there's been an application that's been processed and approved by this board, the license continues to reside and be owned by Shiraz Cuisine, Inc. The statute at issue, which is chapter 138, section 77, which provides that the licensing authorities may, after hearing or reasonable opportunity, therefore cancel any license issued under this chapter if the licensee ceases to conduct the license business. Armen Khachaturian stated he spoke with Noelle Gilligan, City Clerk and the Armenian Cultural Association has been taking every action they need to expedite this issue and basically make it happen. Attorney D'Ortenzio confirmed the BYOB ordinance was provided and explained that the premises are has an alcohol license attached to it and therefore a BYOB, Special One Day or any other alcohol related permit is not permitted.

**Perfection Plus LLC  
493 Pleasant St  
Auto Repair License**

**Continued to unknown date in 2026, appropriate notice will be provided.**

8. Additional comments by Police and Board

None

9. Adjourn



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Sandra Kasabian Hoffman, Chair  
Approved on December 18, 2025