



Licensing Board
CITY OF WATERTOWN
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472
TEL. (617) 972-6486
FAX (617) 972-6595

BOARD MEMBERS

DONNA B. DOUCETTE
SANDRA KASABIAN HOFFMAN
JOHN LABADINI

ALTERNATE MEMBER
JIM TSEREKAS

MINUTES AUGUST 17, 2023

1. Special Licenses

- **Eli Yuan-Vogel** **Approved 3-0**
Pre-Wedding Event, One-Day All Alcohol License
St. James Armenian Church, 465 Mt. Auburn Street August 31

Hovannes Piranosian, facilities manager for St. James Church, appeared in support of the application. He explained that the named applicant is the event manager, a wedding planner, and that the church is allowing use of its non-profit status to allow for an all alcohol license. The event will take place in the function hall underneath church. Chair Doucette reviewed the elements of the application: estimated attendance of 75 persons, floor plan and layout, St. James tax exempt form, wholesale alcohol sales contract, liability insurance, 2 TIPS certifications, and a crowd manager certification. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Piranosian stated that the event will not be open to the public. He noted that while no children are expected as attendees there may be a few infants. Identification will be checked prior to service of alcohol. The Health Department reported no objection to the application. Detective Lieut. Delaney reported 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.

- **Tenzin Nyoekhanksar** **Approved 3-0**
Wedding Event One-Day All Alcohol License
St. James Armenian Church, 465 Mt. Auburn Street September 2

Hovannes Piranosian, facilities manager for St. James Church, appeared in support of the application. Chair Doucette reviewed the elements of the application: the church is using its tax exempt status to allow for an all alcohol license; 350 expected attendees; live music or DJ, approved ABCC wholesaler; alcohol liability insurance, TIPS certifications, crowd manager certification, wristbands to be issued to persons eligible for alcohol service. Mr. Piranosian stated that he believed wristbands would be issued at the bar. There will be two bartenders and two 'barbacks' who can check on identification, which will be requested when drink orders are taken. Board member Kasabian Hoffman stated that id should be checked when attendees enter the

facility, before they go to the bar; otherwise it could be a confusing process. Mr. Piranosian reported that the food permit application is in process. Detective Lieut. Delaney reported 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 that wristbands be issued upon entrance to the facility, that the crowd manager take care to note that the two approved bartenders are the ones dispensing drinks, the conditions requested by the Police Department, and the issuance of a food permit by the Health Department. Mr. Piranosian stated that he would be a crowd manager for the event. Board member Labadini requested that the applicant provide confirmation to the Board regarding the wristband procedure to be used for the event.

- Eric Markarian, Knights of Vartan Approved 3-0
Fundraiser One-Day All Alcohol License
Armenian Cultural and Educational Center, 47 Nichols Avenue
September 28, 2023

Arakel Yacubian appeared in support of the application. Chair Doucette reviewed the elements of the application: indoor and outdoor spaces to be used; 225 – 300 attendees; ACEC tax exempt status being used to allow for all alcohol license, approved ABCC vendor receipt, two bartenders, two crowd managers, applicant to provide liability insurance prior to issuance of license; layout of event areas, advance online ticket purchase only. Mr. Yacubian stated that this will be the 11th annual event, a fundraiser for the Armenian community. He noted that the ticket price usually discourages those under 21, so it is an older group of people with ages running from about 25 and up. The door crew checks ticketed status and id at entry, then gives attendees a wristband. Mr. Yacubian noted that insurance carriers generally wait until closer to the date of an event before issuing a coverage binder, and the insurance for the event is expected to be issued about five to seven days prior to the event. The bar service will be in the courtyard only. In the past there have been two bartenders, one per station together with a support person, and a total of two stations; but, for this event, there will be two stations – side by side. Only certified bartenders will serve alcohol. Detective Lieut. Delaney reported 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 and receipt of evidence of alcohol of liability insurance.

2. Comments by Board Clerk, Police Department

Chair Doucette raised a question regarding Ole Tapas, a restaurant for which the Board had recently approved an alcohol license but which appears to be operating under a different name. Clerk Gilligan stated that an application for a name change has been submitted and a new d/b/a filing has been made with the City Clerk's office.

Clerk Gilligan inquired about the possibility of holding a separate hearing for year-end license renewals. She stated she has told licensees that the application deadline is November 17, anticipating that some will be late in submitting the renewal application.

Start: 7:20PM
End: 8:02PM


Donna B. Doucette, Chair

Present: Donna B. Doucette, Sandra Kasabian Hoffman, John Labadini
Also Present: Licensing Board Clerk - Noelle Gilligan, Watertown Police Detective
Lieut. Kenneth Delaney, Attorney David Doneski