

ALCOHOL CONTROL COMMISSION

Monday, June 15, 2015

The Alcohol Control Commission met at 5:00 p.m. this date in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 601 Broad Street. Chairman Slack presided with Commissioner Lee, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Redding, and Mr. Doss present. Commissioner Canada was absent and excused.

Minutes – May 14, 2015

The minutes of the May 14, 2015 meeting, as submitted in writing by the Secretary, were approved by an unanimous consent.

El Patron, 1802D Redmond Circle

Secretary Smith noted that the City Commission did amend the penalty recommendation made by the Alcohol Control Commission following the Hearing held at the May 14, 2015 meeting. The Alcohol Control Commission has recommended, among other things, that the Entertainment License at El Patron be permanently revoked if an additional citation or warning was issued by the Rome Police Department. The City Commission accepted the penalty recommendations of the ACC with the exception that, if a future citation or warning is issued by the Rome Police Department, the result will not be an immediate revocation of the Entertainment License, but rather, the Alcohol Control Commission would be required to hold a Hearing before a penalty can be recommended.

Buchanan's Sports Bar, LLC, 2730 Martha Berry Boulevard

The application of Rodrigo Barahona, owner and manager of Buchanan's Sports Bar, LLC, 2730 Martha Berry Boulevard, was presented. Mr. Barahona requested that a new Beer and Liquor Pouring License be issued to him at that location. It was noted that this location is an "out parcel" at the Mount Berry Square Mall.

Mr. Barahona has held a Beer Pouring License with the City of Rome previously. He opened El Patron Sports Bar in December, 2013. This business was later sold and is operated by a new manager.

Mr. Barahona explained that he plans to open a sports bar at this location which would be open seven days a week. Mr. Barahona described his kitchen operation and menu to the ACC, noting that his menu will consist primarily of wings and Mexican style food. There was some discussion regarding the food/drink ratio and the fact that Mr. Barahona will have to sell at least as much food as he does distilled spirits in order to hold a City of Rome Liquor Pouring License.

There was also considerable discussion concerning potential noise issues at this site. Since Mr. Barahona owned El Patron, he is very familiar with the problems that are caused by excessive noise. It appears that the nearest residence is the nursing home facility on Three Mile Road. Mr. Barahona explained that he is making considerable

improvements to the building – a new roof, new windows, and interior renovations. Although the work is not finished, Mr. Barahona said he has tested the sound system and does not expect any outside disturbances. He stated this building is constructed differently and provides much better sound insulation than the El Patron building on Redmond Circle. It was suggested that Mr. Barahona meet with the owners and operators of the nursing home to discuss his night club plans and give them his contact information so they may be in touch with him should they encounter a noise problem.

Rome Police Chief Elaine Snow gave Mr. Barahona contact information for the Police Department so he can hire off-duty officers for security at his establishment.

There was some criticism of Mr. Barahona's apparent lack of concern for his neighbors during the time he operated El Patron. He was informed that noise issues at this establishment will not be tolerated.

With the discussion concluded, Commissioner Lee moved to approve the request for a new Beer and Liquor Pouring License at Buchanan's Sports Bar, LLC, 2730 Martha Berry Boulevard, subject to all final inspections and approvals by the appropriate City officials (Building Inspector, Fire Marshal, and Traffic Engineer). Mr. Doss seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Police Report

Rome Police Chief Elaine Snow presented the police report for the previous 30-day period. There was very little activity on the report with one arrest occurring at Wow Café for a drunk and disorderly individual.

There was some discussion regarding the recent shooting incident that resulted in the loss of life outside of The Peach, 425 Broad Street. Chief Snow indicated this is an ongoing investigation and was not able to discuss the circumstances and any details at this time. After the case is settled, then a more thorough discussion of this matter can be made with the ACC.

Adjourned

With there being no further business, Chairman Slack adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Joseph F. Smith
City Clerk