

## ALCOHOL CONTROL COMMISSION

**Monday, February 15, 2016**

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, Commissioner Stevenson, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Redding, and Mr. Doss present.

### **Minutes – January 19, 2016**

The minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting, as submitted in writing by the Secretary, were approved by an unanimous consent.

### **Public Consumption of Alcohol – RACA, DDA, and Harbin Clinic**

There were three requests for public consumption of alcohol presented to the ACC today.

Ms. Rainey Campbell, representing the Rome Area Council for the Arts, was present. Ms. Campbell requested that the 2016 RACA Fire Fly Fling be allowed to have the consumption of alcohol on the Fifth Avenue Bridge (over the Oostanaula River). This annual RACA event will take place on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from approximately 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Fifth Avenue Bridge will be closed to traffic for this event. Ms. Campbell explained that they will ensure that there is no underage consumption is part of their event. Beer, wine, and liquor will be provided to the attendees.

Ms. Campbell also stated that one of the reasons, for choosing this venue, was to give RACA a chance to bring some attention to the Fifth Avenue area. There has been some talk about this area being “primed” for future commercial development, along with some discussion of the importance of the arts in this area.

Commissioner Stevenson moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Doss seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor, including Chairman Slack.

Amanda Carter, representing the Rome Downtown Development Authority, was present to present the request for a DDA Block Party to take place in the 200, 300, and 400 Blocks of Broad Street on Saturday, May 21, 2016. This event will involve bands and will take place between 5 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Although not a First Friday event, this Block Party will be similar to the past First Friday Block Parties that have taken place on Broad Street. The Downtown Development Authority will be teaming up with the Rome Area Arts Council for this event, as the RACA Art Walk will take place from noon until 6 p.m. on this same day.

Commissioner Lee moved to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Doss seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Ms. Amanda Carter also explained the circumstances for the Harbin Clinic Block Party which will be presented in conjunction with the Downtown Development Authority on

Saturday, October 15, 2016. Ms. Carter explained that this event will be somewhat different than the Apocalyptic Block Party that has taken place the past few years. The previous events took place one week later in the month of October. The event is being held earlier this year due to the numerous events of the following weekend. This Block party will also take place in the 200, 300, and 400 Blocks of Broad between 5 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Commissioner Stevenson moved to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Doss seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor, including Chairman Slack.

### **Alcohol Ordinance Amendment – Length of Time to Acquire a License**

Secretary Smith explained that he is recommending that the Alcohol Control Commission consider an ordinance amendment which would amend the length of time an establishment has to acquire their license after receiving ACC approval. Currently, City Code Section 3-177 states that an approval of an application, given by the Alcohol Control Commission, shall expire 90 days from the day of such approval. The Alcohol Control Commission currently has the ability to extend that approval period for an additional 90 days upon request by the applicant. Smith explained that, in some circumstances, especially where property is being initially developed, it can take longer than 180 days to prepare the property and have a business constructed and ready to be open for business. His suggestion is that Section 3-177 be amended to allow the Alcohol Control Commission to grant an initial approval period up to 180 days and also have the discretion to extend that period longer if needed. An applicant would have to reappear before the Alcohol Control Commission to grant an extension. The Alcohol Control Commission would evaluate any request on a case-by-case basis.

After some brief discussion by the ACC, Commissioner Lee move to recommend approval of the ordinance amendment to the City Commission. Commissioner Stevenson seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor, including Chairman Slack.

This ordinance will be placed on the City Commission Agenda for First Reading at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **Police Report**

Major Debbie Burnett was present and presented the police report for the previous 30-day period. Aside from a couple of routine incidents and arrests, Major Burnett reported on a citation that was issued at El Patron, 1802 Redmond Circle. On February 14, 2016, a Rome Police Officer issued a citation to the manager of El Patron for allowing alcohol consumption beyond the allowed hours. In the officer's report he writes that, after 2 a.m. on February 14<sup>th</sup>, he observed approximately 200 persons still inside El Patron, many of whom were still consuming alcohol. The end result was the manager being issued a citation for this offense.

Secretary Smith explained that, per ACC protocol, El Patron will be directed to appear at a License Hearing at the March 21<sup>st</sup> ACC meeting. In November, 2015, a Hearing was

held for a similar offense that occurred at El Patron, and the outcome of that Hearing was a letter of warning.

**Adjourned**

With there being no further business, Chairman Slack adjourned the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

Joseph F. Smith  
City Clerk