

APPROVED MINUTES

Record of Meeting of the Liquor Control Board held November 18, 2015 at The Pavilion Building, Montpelier, Vermont

LCB Members Present; Stephanie O'Brien, Chair and Melissa Mazza-Paquette, Member, Thomas Lauzon, Member and Julian Sbardella, Member

Others Present: James Giffin, Liquor Control Department Interim Commissioner, Marcia Gardner, Director of Sales & Marketing, Tonia Pryce, Liquor Purchasing Coordinator, Pamela Adams, Administrative Assistant, Barry Richardson, Warehouse Supervisor, Brian Elwell, District Coordinator, Brent Leach, District Coordinator, Robert Barrett, District Coordinator, William Goggins, Director, Education, Enforcement & Licensing and Laurie Pecor, Administrative Coordinator and approximately 70 representative of Agency stores.

9:00 a.m. Meeting begins.

- Board action on draft minutes & meeting held October 14, 2015 – Approved
- Board action on draft minutes & meeting held October 28 & 29, 2015 – Approved

Public Comment:

- John Dubie thanks the Board for this opportunity to get together to discuss issues. This is a good first step in communications.

9:10 a.m.

- Opening remarks from Chair Stephanie O'Brien
- Break out into groups for discussions

10:35 a.m. Groups return and reports out to larger group

- Group One – Contracts - Clarifying the process of agent contracts
- Group Two – Agent/DLC productivity - Communication
- Group Three - Criteria for new stores
- Group Four – Agency Contracts - Automatic renewal

11:30 p.m. Closing remarks –

- The Board will recap everything discussed today and Marcia Gardner will send it out to the agents.
- Linda Vincent and Jim Giffin give an overview on the POS system.
- Jim Giffin explains the fortified wine bill and ICAR.
- DLC has entered into talks with American Express
- Emails requested from agents.

12:20 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Board reconvenes (Only 1 public member in attendance – Mathieu Bessette from Southern wine and Spirits)

- DLC listings are not ready at this time. A motion is made to give the Chair authority to approve or disapprove the listings as presented when ready. Motion carries.
- Draft listing manual is handed out to the Board. Members have until November 23rd to get their comments to Marcia. The goal is to approve this at the next meeting. Marcia will send Jacob Humbert a copy.
- A timeline of the process of hiring a new Commissioner has been laid out. The Board is asked to send sample questions for interviews to the Chair by December 1. Jim Giffin will email the Board the applications as they come in as well as prepare paper copies for the Board meeting on December 2, 2015. The Board wants to see all applications.
- Modernization study – Jim feels that the legislature might change the appointment of the new Commissioner to the Governor. They are also discussing having a seven-member Board with limited terms. The Board discussed and no decision pro or con was made on a 5 versus 7 person board.
- Marcia will send out a briefing on the event from today
- Kathy O'Hara to send out dates set aside for the interview process of the hiring of the new Commissioner.
- Board Decisions – The Board will vote and approve all enforcement decisions from the previous meeting at each meeting going forward.

2:30 p.m. Board adjourns.