



# Haverhill

License Commission, Room 118  
Phone: 978-420-3630 Fax: 978-373-8490  
nflynn@haverhillma.gov

## **LICENSE COMMISSION MINUTES** **Thursday September 3, 2026, at 6 PM – Room 202** **Virtual and In-Person Meeting**

*Attending: Chairperson Elizabeth A. Laliberty, Commissioner Linda L. Koutoulas, Commissioner Patrick J. Driscoll,  
Lt. Kevin Lynch – Haverhill Police Department, and License Commission Clerk Nicholas K. Flynn*

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

### **2.1 Approval of the minutes of the August 6, 2026 meeting**

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2026 meeting.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

- 3. CONTINUED BUSINESS**
- 4. MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS/REQUESTS**
- 5. ONE DAY APPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Cynthia Graham, Applicant**

**Haverhill Fire Fighting Museum, Inc.**

**d/b/a Haverhill Firefighting Museum**

**75 Kenoza Avenue**

**-Application for One Day Liquor License – All Alcohol – Chili/Chowder Cookoff  
Fundraiser on October 24, 2026, for the hours of 5PM to 10PM**

**-Has Police Department approval**

**-Pending Event Permit**

John MacCurtain, board member, was present for this application. Chairperson Laliberty and Commissioner Driscoll remarked that the application appeared to be in order. No further comments or questions.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the One Day license for October 24, 2026, for the hours of 5PM to 10PM, pending Event Permit.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 2 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention, motion passed.



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## 5.2 Julia Walderzak, Applicant

**Decanted INC.**

**d/b/a Decanted Wine Truck and Mobile Bar**

**10 Technology Dr Unit 218, Hudson**

**-Application for One Day Liquor License – Beer & Wine Only – Vintage Bazaar Festival at 140 Willow Ave on October 3, 2026, for the hours of 8:30AM to 4PM**

**-Has Police Department approval**

**-Pending Event Permit**

Items 5.2 & 5.3 were heard together.

Julia Walderzak, applicant, was remotely present for these applications. Chairperson Laliberty noted that Vintage Bazaar was misspelled as “bizarre” on the applications and this should be corrected. Ms. Walderzak said she would have this done. No further comments or questions.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the One Day license for October 3, 2026, for the hours of 8:30AM to 4PM, as well as the one for October 4, 2026, for the hours of 10AM to 4PM – pending Event Permit.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 5.3 Julia Walderzak, Applicant

**Decanted INC.**

**d/b/a Decanted Wine Truck and Mobile Bar**

**10 Technology Dr Unit 218, Hudson**

**-Application for One Day Liquor License – Beer & Wine Only – Vintage Bazaar Festival at 140 Willow Ave on October 4, 2026, for the hours of 10AM to 4PM**

**-Has Police Department approval**

**-Pending Event Permit**

Items 5.2 & 5.3 were heard together. See Item 5.2



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## 6. ENTERTAINMENT APPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Gary Ortiz, Applicant

Silvercut Steakhouse Inc

d/b/a Fiesta Bonita Mexican Bar & Grill

242 Winter Street

**-Application for new Entertainment license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-1AM and Friday 10AM-2AM for Amplifiers, Amplified Music, Comedy Show – 2 Comedians – Dancing (by patrons only), D.J., Instrumental Music, Karaoke, Radio, Sporting Event, Television, Performance – 3 Performers/Instruments, 2 Vocalists**

**-Has Police Department and Entertainment Zoning approval**

**-Pending 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy**

Items 6.1, 7.1, and 9.1 were all heard together. Motions were made separately.

Gary Ortiz, applicant, was present for these applications. Mr. Ortiz noted that this was the location of the former RG's Pub and wished to install a "fine restaurant" in its place. He mentioned that there is still much construction work to do, that he was working with the Building Department, architect, and engineers, and that he had just obtained a permit earlier that day to "finish the construction". He concurred that he still needed Workers' Compensation and Liquor Liability insurances, but would wait for ABCC approval first to save money. He further stated the Occupancy permit had been reviewed by a few departments and that he was trying to open the business as soon as possible. Chairperson Laliberty asked for his timeline – the applicant replied "hopefully by October." The Chairperson asked if he already had staff – the applicant said he was bringing over a Mexican chef from Oregon, with ten years of experience, and five of his employees. Mr. Ortiz then commented that he was an accountant and has run over 80 restaurants. The Chairperson inquired if he had a bartender as well, and Mr. Ortiz confirmed he would also have bartenders coming from Oregon with "tons of experience" and would also try to hire Haverhill people, as his goal was to have 17-22 employees with five to seven coming from outside. Chairperson Laliberty verified that he would ensure all bartenders are TIPS certified and versed in MA law, and Mr. Ortiz replied he always makes sure his staff and clients have the certifications they require. Commissioner Driscoll cautioned the applicant to be careful with where he stored alcohol and asked if it would be in the basement. Mr. Ortiz confirmed so, adding that it would be within the office and that only the manager would have access to the storage.



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The Commission requested that the Entertainment hours be reduced by half-an-hour and that last call for alcohol also be half-an-hour before closing – Mr. Ortiz agreed. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired if the applicant had cameras installed – Mr. Ortiz confirmed so and mentioned that the City Electrical Inspector was very helpful with this. The Commissioner further reminded the applicant to work with the Police Department when necessary.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the new Entertainment license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-12:30AM and Friday 10AM-1:30AM for Amplifiers, Amplified Music, Comedy Show – 2 Comedians – Dancing (by patrons only), D.J., Instrumental Music, Karaoke, Radio, Sporting Event, Television, Performance – 3 Performers /Instruments, 2 Vocalists.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 6.2 Robert E. DeFrancesco, Proposed Manager

ABR Group LLC

d/b/a Keon's 105 Bistro

105 Washington Street

**-Application for new Entertainment license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-1AM, Friday 8AM-2AM, and Sunday 10AM-1AM for Amplified Music and Television**

**-Has Police Department and Entertainment Zoning approval**

**-Pending 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy**

Items 6.2, 7.2, and 9.2 were all heard together. Motions were made separately.

Robert E. DeFrancesco, the proposed manager, chef, and co-owner, was present for these applications. Mr. DeFrancesco stated he and his partners were looking to revive Keon's since it closed in June, that he's been a chef for 25 years, and that he prides himself on "doing things the right way". Chairperson Laliberty commented that many were eager to see Keon's return. She then mentioned that she could not make sense of the Promissory Note that had crossing-out and initialing, which seemed to be amending the dollar amount. Mr. DeFrancesco said he believed this might refer to a down payment. Ada Vadeboncoeur, LLC Manager and co-owner, spoke to clarify that the total price agreed upon in the note was \$62,000 and that the remaining \$846 mentioned was "due as principal and [they] agreed for [them] not to pay that."



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The Chairperson replied that this Promissory Note contradicted itself as the spelled-out figure did not match the new numerical figure but the law would recognize what is spelled-out, and advised that they have the spelled-out figure corrected and initialed as well. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired if the business had cameras in place – Mr. DeFrancesco stated that they were replacing the old cameras with new cameras “on the way”. The Commissioner further advised that they coordinate with the Police Department. She also asked that music be indoors only and that the hours be reduced by half-an-hour, and that last call for alcohol also be half-an-hour prior to closing.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the new Entertainment license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-12:30AM, Friday 8AM-1:30AM, and Sunday 10AM-12:30AM for Amplified Music – *Indoors Only* – and Television. pending 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 7. COMMON VICTUALLER APPLICATIONS

### 7.1 Gary Ortiz, Applicant

**Silvercut Steakhouse Inc**

**d/b/a Fiesta Bonita Mexican Bar & Grill**

**242 Winter Street**

**-Application for new Common Victualler license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-1AM and Friday 10AM-2AM**

**-Pending Workers' Compensation Insurance + Affidavit, 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy, and Food/Milk Permit**

Items 6.1, 7.1, and 9.1 were all heard together. See Item 6.1

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the new Common Victualler license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-1AM and Friday 10AM-2AM – pending Workers' Compensation Insurance + Affidavit, 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy, and Food/Milk Permit.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.



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## **7.2 Robert E. DeFrancesco, Proposed Manager**

**ABR Group LLC**

**d/b/a Keon's 105 Bistro**

**105 Washington Street**

**-Application for new Common Victualler license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-1AM, Friday 8AM-2AM, and Sunday 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy and Food/Milk Permit**

Items 6.2, 7.2, and 9.2 were all heard together. See Item 6.2

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the new Common Victualler license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-1AM, Friday 8AM-2AM, and Sunday 10AM-1AM – pending 304 Certificate of Business Occupancy and Food/Milk Permit.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.3 Paul Derro, Proposed Manager**

**New England Authentic Eats LLC**

**d/b/a Papa Gino's**

**782 River Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager from Jason Coito to Paul Derro**

Paul Derro, proposed manager, was remotely present for this application. Chairperson Laliberty remarked that everything seemed to be in order. Commissioner Koutoulas urged the business to notify the City should they change the manager again so files could be updated accordingly. Chairperson Laliberty agreed, remarking that several businesses were on this agenda for the same reason and that it was the business' responsibility to make sure that records are aligned.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Jason Coito to Paul Derro.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.



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## **7.4 Nathalie Jaime, Proposed Manager**

**M.D.C. Management Co., LLC**

**d/b/a McDonald's Restaurant #1490**

**63 South Main Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager  
from Maria Emond to Nathalie Jaime**

Items 7.4, 7.5, and 7.6 were all heard together. Motions were made separately.

Nathalie Jaime, proposed manager and Director of Operations, was present for these applications. Chairperson Laliberty verified if the new manager would be managing all three McDonald's locations and Ms. Jaime confirmed so. Commissioner Koutoulas reminded the business to inform the City if the manager changes again. No further comments or questions.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Maria Emond to Nathalie Jaime.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.5 Nathalie Jaime, Proposed Manager**

**M.D.C. Management Co., LLC**

**d/b/a McDonald's Restaurant #4955**

**1182 Main Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager  
from Hassan Jahm to Nathalie Jaime**

Items 7.4, 7.5, and 7.6 were all heard together. See Item 7.4

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Hassan Jahm to Nathalie Jaime.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.



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## **7.6 Nathalie Jaime, Proposed Manager**

**M.D.C. Management Co., LLC**

**d/b/a McDonald's Restaurant #16500**

**795 River Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager  
from Diana Cabrera to Nathalie Jaime**

Items 7.4, 7.5, and 7.6 were all heard together. See Item 7.4

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Diana Cabrera to Nathalie Jaime.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.7 Jessica DelRosso, Proposed Manager**

**Opportunity Works, Inc.**

**d/b/a Perfect Blend Café**

**100 Elliott Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager  
from Ken Moran to Jessica DelRosso**

Jessica DelRosso, proposed manager and Director of Community Services for Opportunity Works, was remotely present for this application. Commissioner Koutoulas reminded the business to inform the City if the manager changes again and Ms. DelRosso agreed. No further comments or questions.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Ken Moran to Jessica DelRosso.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.8 Yema Jalal, Proposed Manager**

**Boston Pie, Inc.**

**d/b/a Domino's Pizza**

**130 Main Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager  
from Robert Chester to Yema Jalal**



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No one appeared on behalf of Boston Pie, Inc.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to continue this matter as an Item for Discussion at the October 1, 2026 meeting. Failure to appear for the subsequent meeting may affect the renewal of the license.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.9 Shane Fitzpatrick, Proposed Manager**

**Starbucks Corporation**

**d/b/a Starbucks Coffee #11182**

**1116 Main Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager from Megan Walleston to Shane Fitzpatrick**

Kyler Marcelino, District Manager, was remotely present for this application. No questions or comments.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Megan Walleston to Shane Fitzpatrick.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.10 Soledad Victorio, Proposed Manager**

**Twin Coast Tropicals, Inc.**

**d/b/a Tropical Smoothie Cafe**

**400 Lowell Avenue, Unit 9**

**-Application for Amendments of Common Victualler license:**

- **Change of Manager from Dennis Blanco to Soledad Victorio**
- **Change of Hours on Monday – Saturday from 7AM-9PM to 7AM-10PM and on Sunday from 9AM-9PM to 8AM-10PM**

Soledad Victorio, proposed manager, was remotely present for this application. No questions or comments.



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*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment from Dennis Blanco to Soledad Victorio, as well as the Change of Hours for Monday – Saturday 7AM-10PM and Sunday 8AM-10PM.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 7.11 Jeff Isbell, Manager

**North Shore Golf Club Holdings LLC**

**d/b/a Renaissance Golf Club**

**377 Kenoza Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

Items 7.11 & 9.3 were heard together. Motions were made separately.

Jeff Isbell, manager, was present for these applications. Commissioner Driscoll advised the manager that the new liquor hours could not take effect until the ABCC granted approval. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired if they had an Entertainment license – Clerk Flynn advised they did but that its hours were already congruent with the newly requested hours for the Common Victualler and Liquor licenses. Commissioner Driscoll also mandated that alcohol service end half-an-hour prior to closing.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Hours for Sunday 10AM-1AM.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 7.12 Amanda Smith, Manager

**99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC**

**d/b/a The 99 Restaurant**

**786 River Street**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

No one appeared on behalf of 99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC.



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*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to postpone this application to the October 1, 2026 meeting.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **7.13 David Brogna, Manager**

**Grande Mexico, LLC**

**d/b/a Grande Mexico**

**108 Plaistow Road**

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending \$60 Application Fee payment**

Items 7.13 & 9.5 were heard together. Motions were made separately.

David Brogna, manager, was present for these applications. Clerk Flynn announced that the fee payment had been made recently. Chairperson Laliberty asked if Mr. Brogna could confirm the legal name of the business – Mr. Brogna stated it was “Grande Mexico LLC.” The Chairperson replied that Clerk Flynn had noted the d/b/a name was different on the submitted DOR Certificate than what was on file. The manager said he was not sure what constitutes as d/b/a vs. legal name, but that the d/b/a name was only used on signage while “tax returns, etc.” were all under the LLC name.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Hours for Sunday 10AM-1AM.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **8. OUTDOOR DINING APPLICATIONS**



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## 9. ALCOHOL/ABCC APPLICATIONS

### 9.1 Gary Ortiz, Applicant

Silvercut Steakhouse Inc

d/b/a Fiesta Bonita Mexican Bar & Grill

242 Winter Street

**-Application for new §12 Restaurant All-Alcoholic Beverages license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-1AM and Friday 10AM-2AM**

**-Pending ABCC approval**

**-Pending Workers' Compensation Insurance + Affidavit, 304 Certificate of Occupancy, Food/Milk Permit, Liquor Liability Insurance, Safe Service of Alcohol Certificate(s), and final requirements of Abutters' Notification Affidavit**

Items 6.1, 7.1, and 9.1 were all heard together. See Item 6.1

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the new §12 Restaurant All-Alcoholic Beverages license for Saturday – Thursday 10AM-1AM and Friday 10AM-2AM – pending ABCC approval, Workers' Compensation Insurance + Affidavit, 304 Certificate of Occupancy, Food/Milk Permit, Liquor Liability Insurance, Safe Service of Alcohol Certificate(s), and final requirements of Abutters' Notification Affidavit.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

### 9.2 Robert E. DeFrancesco, Proposed Manager

ABR Group LLC

d/b/a Keon's 105 Bistro

105 Washington Street

**-Application for new §12 Restaurant All-Alcoholic Beverages license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-1AM, Friday 8AM-2AM, and Sunday 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending ABCC approval**

**-Pending 304 Certificate of Occupancy, Food/Milk Permit, Liquor Liability Insurance, Safe Service of Alcohol Certificate(s), and final requirements of Abutters' Notification Affidavit**

Items 6.2, 7.2, and 9.2 were all heard together. See Item 6.2



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*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the new §12 Restaurant All-Alcoholic Beverages license for Monday – Thursday & Saturday 8AM-1AM, Friday 8AM-2AM, and Sunday 10AM-1AM – pending ABCC approval, 304 Certificate of Occupancy, Food/Milk Permit, Liquor Liability Insurance, Safe Service of Alcohol Certificate(s), and final requirements of Abutters' Notification Affidavit.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

### 9.3 Jeff Isbell, Manager

**North Shore Golf Club Holdings LLC**

**d/b/a Renaissance Golf Club**

**377 Kenoza Street**

**-Application for Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending ABCC approval**

Items 7.11 & 9.3 were heard together. See Item 7.11

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Change of Hours for Sunday 10AM-1AM, pending ABCC approval.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

### 9.4 Amanda Smith, Manager

**99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC**

**d/b/a The 99 Restaurant**

**786 River Street**

**-Application for Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending ABCC approval**

No one appeared on behalf of 99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to postpone this application to the October 1, 2026 meeting, noting that the business could not serve alcohol earlier than 12PM on Sundays for the time being.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.



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## **9.5 David Brogna, Manager**

**Grande Mexico, LLC**

**d/b/a Grande Mexico**

**108 Plaistow Road**

**-Application for Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending \$60 Application Fee payment and ABCC approval**

Items 7.13 & 9.5 were heard together. See Item 7.13

Commissioner Koutoulas reminded Mr. Brogna that the new liquor hours could not take effect until the ABCC granted approval.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Hours for Sunday 10AM-1AM, pending ABCC approval.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

*Remaining Items were heard in the following order: 12.1, 9.6, 12.2-12.4, 13.1, 13.2*

## **9.6 Richard Willett, Manager**

**Crescent Yacht Club**

**d/b/a Crescent Yacht Club**

**30 Ferry Street**

**-Application for Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM**

**-Pending ABCC approval**

David Currier, club Director, was present for this application. Commissioner Koutoulas reminded Mr. Currier that the new liquor hours could not take effect until the ABCC granted approval. Chairperson Laliberty inquired if the club was changing its manager – Mr. Currier advised there would be a change “coming up”.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Hours for Sunday 10AM-1AM, pending ABCC approval.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **10. MOTOR VEHICLE APPLICATIONS**



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## 11. CARRY IN LICENSE APPLICATIONS

## 12. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

### 12.1 David Broгна, Manager

Grande Mexico, LLC

d/b/a Grande Mexico

108 Plaistow Road

**-Item for Discussion: Alleged disturbance on or about August 24, 2026, at 8:00PM**

Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts: on August 24<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched for a reported disturbance where four male parties were causing a scene. The reporting party advised the male party entered the restaurant intoxicated, sat down next to a female at the bar and was harassing her. The other male parties intervened, leading to the disturbance. The reported party was found outside by the officers, too intoxicated to provide a statement, and was driven home by another patron.

David Broгна, manager, was present for this discussion, along with his bartender who'd worked that evening, Jennifer Parker. The manager stated Ms. Parker had 20 years of experience in the service industry and was TIPS-certified via in-person training. He also mentioned he brought footage on a USB drive if requested. Mr. Broгна advised the male party and co. had entered at 7:13PM and were served one drink and food. 30 minutes later, the verbal altercation began and the bartender attempted to deescalate the situation. Unable to do so, she removed their drinks and called the police, who arrived shortly thereafter. Mr. Broгна stated that evidence supported each party only having been served one drink each at the restaurant. He also applauded his bartender for handling the situation "textbook" and feeling comfortable to "call for backup". Chairperson Laliberty concurred this was the purpose of the Police Department, but then highlighted that the police report stated that the male party had "walked into the restaurant intoxicated". The manager said he did not perceive this, and added that the report erroneously claimed that the officers spoke with Ms. Parker.

Ms. Parker spoke and mentioned she's worked at Grande Mexico for the past 16 years. She stated that there was nothing that initially aroused suspicion about the three gentlemen in question, and that they "were there to eat, not to drink". She clarified she made a call about a "verbal altercation" and that it wasn't a "belligerence call", and said she was proud of the way the unfortunate situation was handled. Chairperson Laliberty inquired again if the party had walked in intoxicated. The bartender said she had two staff members with her, that the verbal altercation had caused anxiety, and



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that they have a zero-tolerance policy for aggression. The Chairperson mentioned she was concerned that the party was found “too intoxicated” by the police. Ms. Parker interjected to state that despite her name being in the report and making the call, the police never spoke to her at any point and she assumed she should wait for them to approach her if needed. She questioned why she was quoted in the report when she had never spoken to the police on-site, and said they would have gotten a better recounting of the situation if they had.

Chairperson Laliberty asked the bartender what their process was for a patron that walks in intoxicated. Ms. Parker replied they would not serve them a single drink, and that the footage proves they were sitting quietly, initially. The Chairperson asked Lt. Lynch if he’d been able to view the video – the lieutenant replied he had not but that the officers denoted the individual was intoxicated, meaning he would have consumed alcohol prior to entering the restaurant. He then said it is helpful to engage with patrons first before serving them alcohol to verify they are not intoxicated, as some can pass off initially as sober, but did mention he’s known Ms. Parker for over 20 years and did not suspect ill intention. Ms. Parker concurred she takes this very seriously, which is why she phoned the police, and remarked she at least had the opportunity to demonstrate to her staff what to do in such situations.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to place the matter on file.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 12.2 Richard Willett, Manager

**Crescent Yacht Club**

**d/b/a Crescent Yacht Club**

**30 Ferry Street**

**-Item for Discussion: Incident that occurred on or about August 9, 2026, at 8:31PM**

Lt. Lynch presented the facts: on August 9<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched for an unwanted, intoxicated male patron at the Crescent Yacht Club who’d been yelling and behaving disrespectfully. The bartender advised he’d been served two drinks before becoming belligerent, and fell as he exited, hitting his head. The officers noted the patron had slurred speech, glossy eyes, and a strong odor of alcohol emanating. The patron said he could not remember if he’d fallen and refused medical treatment, before being transported to his residence and left in the custody of a family member.



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David Currier, club Director, was present for this discussion. The director advised the patron signed in on the guest book upon arrival and sat at the bar to order a drink. The bartender had advised that he was “stable” when he first arrived. In the interim of ordering a second drink, he witnessed club members playing cards and inquired what they were doing. The bartender had trouble understanding his question as he began mumbling, and replied he would need to ask them. He went over to speak to the members but they could not understand him either. He returned to the bar to order a third drink, and began behaving obscenely towards the bartender. The bartender told him he had to leave, making him more belligerent, and then called the police. He was walked out of the building when he did fall and hit his head, though no injury was apparently noticed. The bartender, still on the line with dispatch, said they may want to send an ambulance. One of the club members waited with him outside until police arrived, where they then took him into custody and brought him home. The director stated the individual was banned indefinitely from the club.

Chairperson Laliberty expressed concern that the party had consumed a third drink despite his behavior. Mr. Currier clarified he had ordered a third but never consumed it – the Chairperson inquired if a third had been served to him. Christina Cruickshank, the bartender, spoke and said the party started mumbling, after having the second drink, about gambling and inferred he was referring to members playing KENO. While she was preparing the third drink, the party went over to talk to the members and then began behaving obscenely, where she then apparently dumped the third drink and told him to leave. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired in what period of time did the party consume the two drinks – Ms. Cruickshank replied maybe an hour. The Commissioner asked if he was a club member and the bartender replied she did not think so but had signed the book as a guest. The Commissioner asked which member had signed him in but the bartender did not know. The Commissioner reminded the club that the bartender cannot be the one to sign in club guests, and that guests could not simply sign the guest book without the presence of a member, a rule the Commission has advised in the past. Commissioner Driscoll added that a member could not sign various blank spots and have guests sign later at their leisure. Richard LeBlanc, club President and Commodore, spoke and clarified that Ms. Cruickshank is not a member and did not sign the book for anyone. He added that the club typically has a TIPS-certified and Crowd Control certified doorperson that identifies and signs non-members in. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if this individual was a guest of the doorperson – Mr. LeBlanc replied he was a guest of “somebody that he knew in the club” and that the doorperson doesn’t “necessarily” sign in anyone. The Commissioner verified if a member had signed him in and Mr.



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LeBlanc said yes. She then agreed with Chairperson Laliberty's concern that a third drink had been prepared despite his signs of incapacity. Ms. Cruickshank said it was more so about her not understanding *how* he wanted to gamble, and referred to the members playing what they call "ghetto KENO". Commissioner Koutoulas replied this sounded like an illegal process, and that the only permitted gambling is the lottery. The bartender said they were playing KENO – Commissioner Driscoll offered they were likely just pooling their money while playing regular KENO. He then advised that when a patron is determined to be inebriated, it is the responsibility of the bartender/staff to not force them out of the premises, as they could attempt to operate a vehicle while intoxicated. Commissioner Koutoulas added this is when the police should be called. Mr. Currier replied he was not forced out but escorted out, and that he left of his own volition. Commissioner Koutoulas said the police had not been called at that point but Mr. Currier clarified they had been called as he decided to exit, and Ms. Cruickshank added that she was still on the phone with the police as he exited and fell on his head. Lt. Lynch concurred that establishments could not tell intoxicated patrons to leave and needed to call the police if they wished to have them removed. Commissioner Koutoulas expressed she hoped there had been some education and did not wish to see the club have to return to a new meeting.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to place the matter on file.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **12.3 Patcharin Jeesom, Manager**

**PPT Hospitality LLC**

**d/b/a Klin Thai Haverhill**

**56 Locust Street**

**-Item for Discussion: Status of Business**

Patcharin Jeesom, manager, and Pae Worachina, general manager of PPT Hospitality LLC, were both present for this discussion. Chairperson Laliberty said they were asked to come in to explain why the business had still not opened. Mr. Worachina replied this was understandable and said they made a "huge mistake" by only hiring one contracting company. He explained that they operate different locations in other towns with the exact same layout, and decided to use the same contractor for all locations to keep it simple. However, there have been issues with this contractor, such as subcontractors not showing up to work, but the business had already paid them for



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the whole project. Mr. Worachina had kept in contact with Clerk Flynn month-to-month to advise continuously that the project should be done by the coming month but it would be delayed repeatedly. But he stated that the final deadline to complete the project was the middle of next month, and their contract stipulated that the contractor would have to return payment if they failed to meet the deadline. Chairperson Laliberty said she understood the situation but needed to hear from them what was going on, and that “something need[ed] to happen” soon. Commissioner Koutoulas verified if the deadline was mid-October – Ms. Jeedom spoke and showed paperwork indicating the contractor’s promise was the completion by October 15<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioner reminded them about the liquor license renewal meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Worachina confirmed they would be there, asking what time the meeting would start. Clerk Flynn clarified it would be at 2PM and asked that only one of the pair attend due to limited occupancy – Mr. Worachina agreed. Commissioner Driscoll asked that the Clerk be notified of the construction’s completion or return to the November meeting. Commissioner Koutoulas suggested a deadline of one week prior to the meeting.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to require Klin Thai Haverhill to notify the License Commission Clerk by no later than October 26, 2026 that construction has been completed, or else this matter shall be continued to the November 5, 2026 meeting.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 12.4 Juan Cepeda, Manager

**D & B Supermarket LLC**

**d/b/a Union Supermarket**

**233 Winter Street**

**-Item for Discussion: Status of Business**

Juan Cepeda, manager, was present for this discussion. Chairperson Laliberty explained they were asked to attend as they’ve held a §15 Wine & Malt liquor license since January 2023 but have still not opened their convenience store for business, and so the Commission wished to get an update on the project and know if/when they intended to use the license. Mr. Cepeda said they’ve been working on turning the building into a mixed-use business, with apartments and the store, and that the City approved the mixed usage. They then switched banks and waited a long time for the



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financing. He then said he thinks they might be able to open in April or May of the following year because they need to finish construction. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired if they had been approved to have apartments and the manager confirmed so. The Commissioner noted he would need to put an elevator in and asked if he was waiting for loans – Mr. Cepeda said yes. Chairperson Laliberty stated there were no more §15 licenses available in Haverhill and they had been holding onto one for several years, and that while they were eager to see the business complete the project and operate, falling behind schedule prevents other businesses from using the license. Commissioner Koutoulas noted that legal counsel had advised this was considered a “pocket license” and that the Commission could give them six months to complete the project and open but that they would need to give up the license if this deadline could not be met. The manager said this was a big project and could not promise it could be done in six months despite trying to get it done as soon as possible. The Chairperson sympathized with the situation but noted he could always reapply for the license after he finishes construction, and that holding up the unused license until then seemed unfair to other businesses.

Commissioner Koutoulas cited M.G.L. Ch138 §77, granting a local board authority to revoke a liquor license “after hearing or reasonable opportunity therefor”, and suggested a Motion to revoke the license six months later if the business was not open by then. She expressed sympathy but noted there are many businesses that would like to apply for this license. Mr. Cepeda pleaded, saying the delay was not his fault, that they waited a long time for approvals and the loans to come in, and that this project has costed him a lot of money. The Commissioner noted the business owner would still have the apartments and convenience store, and asked if not having the Wine & Malt license would be so detrimental and if it would “so egregious” for the Commission to revoke this license. The manager replied he would have to go through a different process to reapply for the license but the Commissioner countered that a different business could have been using it in the almost four years that he’s obtained it. Mr. Cepeda said the City knows he’s been trying to run this project the best he can and asked the Commission to consider the fact that he spent a lot of money. The Commissioner replied he would still have income from the store and apartments, and then asked if he was still looking for a bank. Mr. Cepeda clarified he now had the bank financing and that they’ve been trying to complete the project as quickly as they can. Chairperson Laliberty suggested they return in two months to provide an update on the construction. The manager said he could talk to the contractor to see if they could shorten the timeline. Commissioner Koutoulas said she did not want to hurt the business and wished for it to open soon. Commissioner Driscoll noted that giving them



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a six-month deadline in November would put them within the suggested timeline of April or May. Mr. Cepeda's son, Nestor Batista, spoke, saying they did not know much about construction and asked the Commission to give them two months to figure the situation out, as they could not promise finishing in six months and would need to speak to the contractor first. Commissioner Koutoulas said she was amenable to them returning in November, where they would need to provide a "very complete and concise idea" of when they would open. Chairperson Laliberty said something would need to happen in November. The Commission wished the business good luck.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to continue this matter to the November 5, 2026 meeting, with the expectation of an update regarding the construction.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## **12.5 Zhui Chen, Manager**

**Kobe Rice House, Inc.**

**d/b/a Kobe Buddha House**

**89 Plaistow Road**

### **-Item for Discussion: Status of Business Resumption**

No one appeared on behalf of Kobe Rice House, Inc. Chairperson Laliberty asked if the Police Department had conducted an inspection of the premises to see if there was any alcohol, as the business had not obtained a 2026 liquor license yet. Lt. Lynch replied he had not heard an update.

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to continue this matter as a Show Cause hearing during the October 1, 2026 meeting.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.



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## 13. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

### 13.1 Kamal Zefta, Manager

**Zefta & Taleb, Inc.**

**d/b/a Maria's Family Restaurant**

**81 Essex Street**

**-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of M.G.L. Ch138 §64 – Failure to  
comply with Commonwealth law(s)**

**-Operating business with Dissolved Corporation**

**-Continued from August 6, 2026 meeting**

Kamal Zefta, manager, was present for this discussion. Mr. Zefta said that “everything’s supposedly paid” but could not obtain a Certificate of Good Standing so he called the Department of Revenue to inquire. He was supposedly advised that they are missing some filings, despite having made all the necessary payments, technically rendering them uncompliant. Mr. Zefta said he had with him a report of everything that has been paid to the state and had asked his accountant how quickly the process of filing the missing reports could be expedited. The accountant advised this was a busy period and would need 90 days to get everything in order and filed. The manager said he could try to urge him to complete it sooner but understood the 90-day deadline was more “realistic”. Chairperson Laliberty inquired if the returns themselves were completed and simply not filed, or if they are missing. Mr. Zefta said his father became ill in 2019 and he’d attended to him for five years, which caused him to have four years unfiled. He filed for an extension and paid its fee but this apparently did not make him compliant “in the eyes of the state.” He said he did not understand this and rhetorically asked where the files and payments were going if the company was dissolved. He showed the Chairperson a report of all state tax payments that have been made. The Chairperson asked if there was a balance due on anything and the manager said there was not. Commissioner Driscoll remarked he dealt with returns too and knew it takes a while for professionals to complete. Mr. Zefta said he would rather retain his accountant, since he has been with the business for a long time and knows “everything that’s going on,” rather than try to find a new accountant, but knows that his accountant would need 90 days. The Commission was amenable to this. Chairperson Laliberty deemed Mr. Zefta to be straightforward.



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*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to continue this matter to the December 3, 2026 meeting, unless Zefta & Taleb, Inc. successfully reinstates in the interim with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 13.2 Michael Ryan, Manager

**Paul Francis Bridal Inc.**

**d/b/a Paul Francis Bridal**

**2 Washington Street**

**-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of M.G.L. Ch138 §64 – Failure to comply with Commonwealth law(s)**

**-Operating business with Dissolved Corporation**

Michael Ryan, manager, was present for this discussion. Mr. Ryan stated he was working through the matter with his accountant and that his discovery he'd been dissolved came with bad timing, not only because of the shop's busy period but because he was preparing for his own wedding. The manager discovered his accountant mistakenly believed his attorney was filing the reports instead but was now working with him to get all the filing up to date. He stated all his federal returns were "squared away" and that he shouldn't need longer than 30-45 days. Chairperson Laliberty asked if this affected his corporation as it was shown as dissolved, and Mr. Ryan explained his Annual Reports were not being filed despite paying taxes. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if this could be continued to the following month, Mr. Ryan said he would try to have it done by then. The Commission then verified he had stopped serving alcohol – the manager confirmed he had as soon as he received the notice, and that it wasn't a big part of the business. The Commission decided that two months should be enough but to let them know if it gets resolved sooner.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to continue this matter to the November 5, 2026 meeting, unless Paul Francis Bridal Inc. successfully reinstates in the interim with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 14. COMMUNICATIONS

## 15. OTHER BUSINESS



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## 16. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to adjourn.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

**No Public Comment.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Nicholas K. Flynn**

**Haverhill License Commission Clerk**