

MINUTES OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

MARCH 17, 2021

On the 17TH of March 2021, the ABC Board did convene at Little Rock, Arkansas for its regular monthly meeting and in attendance were Freddie Black, Chairman, Steve Smith, Pam DePriest, Jamie Anderson and Alex Blass.

The Board accepted the Director's Decisions, Violation Resume, Warning Letters and request for extension of inactive status letters. Board member Steve Smith made a motion to approve, Pam DePriest seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote. A Supplemental Director's Decisions was presented, Board member Jamie Anderson made a motion to approve, Pam DePriest seconded. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Chairman Black announced that the next ABC Board meeting would be held on April 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., which is the third Wednesday of June. The meeting would be held in the 101 East Capitol, Suite 401 Conference Room, Little Rock, Arkansas.

First hearing on the agenda was the review of The Right Spot, located at 708 Ouachita 67, Camden, called by the Board after the 6-month suspension was completed. Mr. David Harris and Mr. James Lindsey testified to the new businesses plan. Based on the testimony the Board approved the business plan and allowed the business to reopen.

Second hearing on the agenda was for Sabbir A. Zia, Gillett Food and Gas, LLC, located at 111 West Main Street, Gillett, applying for retail beer off premises and small farm wine – retail permits. Applications were denied by Director because applicant did not meet the residency requirements by living within 35 miles of the proposed business. Mr. Zia testified for this business and ABC Enforcement Agent Latherese Ellis testified regarding her investigation while working the permit application. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented, and findings of facts, the Director's decision denying Sabbir A. Zia's application was upheld by the Board with a 5-0 vote. The Board determined Mr. Zia could make another application when he had satisfied the residency requirements.

Third hearing on the agenda was the violation appeal of Lisa Murphy, Fiddler's Green Dispensary, located at 16150 Highway 9, Mountain View. Ms. Lisa Murphy, Mr. Kent Thomas and Attorney Tre Kitchens testified for the business. Agents Howard Robinson, Rob Bacile and Shelby Clark gave testimony regarding the violations. Based upon testimony given, a motion was made and seconded that charges 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 were supported by substantial evidence; and that charges 4 and 7 were not supported. The Board upheld the Director's Violation Order with a 5-0 vote.

Final hearing on the agenda was the violation appeal of Ronald L. Allsup, Leonard Stark VFW #3543, located at 1989 Heber Springs Road, Tumbling Shoals. The hearing was continued until the April Board Meeting.

The Board meeting was then adjourned.

Freddie Black, Chairman

Doralee Chandler, Director