

**City of Northville
Liquor License Review Committee
August 1, 2016**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Liquor License Review Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167.

It was noted that Mayor Pro Tem James Allen, and Councilmember Marilyn Price were present.

Commissioner John Buckland was excused.

Also present were City Manager Pat Sullivan, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Massel, Police Chief Michael Carlson, Kevin DeGrood from North Center Brewing, and five citizens.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Agenda

No changes to the agenda were made.

Approval of Minutes

Motion Price seconded by Allen to approve the June 6, 2016 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Request to Add Small Winemaker License and Outdoor Service Permit

North Center Brewing Company, owned by Kevin DeGrood and located at 410 N. Center Street, was approved by Council to obtain a Micro-Brewery License at its regular meeting on October 6, 2014. Mr. DeGrood and the North Center Brewing Company have had no Michigan Liquor Control Commission violations since opening their doors for business in 2014.

Mr. DeGrood is now requesting to add a Small Wine Maker License and Outdoor Service Permit for North Center Brewing Company. A Small Wine Maker License will allow Mr. DeGrood to manufacture or bottle not more than 50,000 gallons of wine per calendar year and to sell that wine to a retailer, wholesaler, to a consumer by direct shipment, and at retail on the licensed winery premises. An outdoor Service Permit will allow seating on private property of up to eight patrons located on the west side (Center Street side) of the business on the paved

sidewalk that abuts the City sidewalk. This will increase the overall capacity from 44 patrons to 52 patrons.

Mr. DeGrood's Plan of Operation has been changed to accommodate this request. The new Plan indicates that in addition to beer, Mr. DeGrood will manufacture cider, mead, and wine. The manufacturing process for the making of wine, cider, and mead uses fruit, honey, and yeast in the business's existing equipment. The process does not use heat, so there is no odor outside the building. The byproducts will be spent yeast that can be reused into the brewing process.

Public hearing opened at 7:03 p.m.

Joanne Bandoni-Menhart - 483 Grace Stated that she was representing several neighbors that could not attend. She commented that the brewery was a good neighbor and was not opposed to outdoor seating on the west side of the building. In response to her concern, it was answered that there is no smell from the wine making process, a concentrate is used and kept in airtight containers, no fruit is smashed onsite, so there is no byproduct. In response to her concern it was explained that although the license allows the licensee to make up to 50,000 gallons per year, the Brewery is projected to make 200 gallons at a time, every six months. The owner of the Brewery added that licensure and wine making is still several months away, but plans to offer red and white wine. The main product of the Brewery is beer, and wine is secondary.

Kurt Menhart - 483 Grace In response to a question about the limits of the license, it was responded that distilling is a separate license, and this license is for wine making only.

Steve Calkins - 317 West Dunlap Commented that the Brewery is a contribution to the community. Stated that the Brewery should have outdoor seating to draw attention to the business and supports the wine making license since he has friends that won't go there unless they have wine. He would also like to see food trucks in the City more often.

The LLRC asked that it be noted that outdoor seating is not counted in the parking credit count, the intention is to add ambiance, draw attention and provide seating options to patrons.

Brett Meyer - 437 Grace Stated he has concerns about noise and flies from the dumpster. He installed fly traps and planned to send a letter to Council. He stated that there was a little noise from a band this weekend, but as requested, the owner closed the rear door of the building and that solved the problem. Does not feel outdoor seating placement will be an issue.

In response to his concern about flies, the LLRC asked the owner of the Brewery to clarify what by-product goes in the dumpster. It was answered that the dumpster is used by the whole building, mostly offices, and that any grain waste product from brewing is picked up by a farmer weekly to be used as fertilizer, it does not go in the dumpster.

Being no further comments, the public hearing closed at 7:19 p.m.

Motion Price, seconded by Allen to recommend that City Council take no action to object to the addition of a small winemaker license with outdoor service. **Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Massel
Deputy City Clerk

Approved as submitted: 9/19/16