

**Citizens Committee to Review Alcoholic Beverage Laws (CCRABL)
Meeting Minutes**

**Truxtun Recreation Center
Meeting Room 3
May 18, 2010
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Committee Members:

Whitney Chellis, Chair	Jerry Hardesty	Vic Pascoe
Brian Cahalan	Joe Lyon	Vince Quinlan
Chris Fox	Valerie Miller	Chuck Weikel
John Gianetti	Sean O'Neill	Denise Worthen

Committee Resource Members:

Charles Grayston, Vice Chair

City Staff:

Sally Nash
Jacqui Rouse

Parties of Interest:

Alderman Kirby
6 members of the public

General Notes:

The **Chair** opened the meeting at 6:10 pm. The agenda for the meeting was to discuss the Committee's recommendation sheets.

Sally Nash explained the different ways she had organized and categorized the recommendations. The **Chair** began with the recommendations for the ABCB/Licensing.

The first recommendation, ABCB 1A, originally read:

- A. ABCB membership should include active bar operator/owner; a resident of Ward One (because of the high percentages of licenses that are in Ward One); and a package good store owner.

The Committee discussed how this would be implemented. It would need a change in the State Code. The committee voted to proceed with the recommendation, and in the meantime, recommend that it is codified in City law that one member of the 5-person board is a resident of the district with the most alcoholic beverage licenses, and that one member is recommended by the Annapolis Hospitality Industry.

The second recommendation was then discussed:

- B. ABCB should establish an escalating penalty scale, with clearly established penalties for each type of infraction (disturbing the peace, sales to intoxicated, sales to minors etc) within specified time periods.

The committee agreed that the penalty scale should be made public, should escalate with the severity of the offense, and that the ABCB would have the discretion to allow for mitigating circumstances and to set the penalties as they agreed were appropriate.

The next recommendation discussed was:

- C. Same type of standards for expunging records should be in place for liquor infractions as other types of licenses (3 yr?).

The committee agreed 3 years was a good time period.

The next recommendation discussed was:

- D. TIPS training for everyone who serves alcohol, bartenders and wait staff.

The committee agreed, noting that the language should be slightly altered to read “TIPS training for everyone who sells or serves alcohol—bartenders, wait staff, etc.” It was agreed that 60 days from the date of employment would be enough time for the new employee to take the TIPS training.

The Committee then discussed:

- E. Better/True categories for establishments, call a bar a bar, a restaurant a restaurant and establish zoning and license categories so everyone knows what the true use of the establishment is.

The Committee agreed and decided to discuss this further in the future.

The Committee then discussed:

- F. Change licenses to correct type—Fees are based on type with nightclubs being more than taverns and taverns being more than restaurants

The Committee agreed and decided to discuss this further in the future.

The Committee then discussed:

- G. Full time liquor inspector (or “Czar”)—funded by “fee for service.” This would be an administrative “go-to person” for tracking ,etc. and will address nuisance issues as well as be an information resource for residents and license holders, and will conduct observations and coordinate stings with APD.

The Committee agreed to strike the word “Czar” and replace it with something akin to “Alcohol Enforcement Officer.”

The Committee then discussed:

- H. More focus on penalizing actual offenders, not the owners

This recommendation was clarified to apply to situations where a bartender or other server serves a minor and then gets a small fine, while the establishment receives a much larger fine. The committee agreed to recommend that the municipal infraction fine for the server is increased.

The Committee then agreed to adjourn for the evening and try to get through the rest of the recommendations at the next meeting. **John Gianetti** volunteered to begin writing the chapter for the final report regarding the ABCB and licensing.

Closing:

The next meeting of the Committee will be May 25, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in **Meeting Room 3**. The Committee will continue to discuss the recommendation sheets.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:52 pm.

Action Items:

Provide a summary of how APD staffing generally works on Friday and Saturday nights (**APD**)

Look up the timeline for the new fee schedule that will go into effect in July (**P&Z**)

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting for the Committee will be held on **May 25, 2010 at 6:00pm** at the Truxtun Park Recreation Center, Meeting Room 3.

Future Draft Agenda(s):

June 1: Zoning, 2 AM closing, and Other Miscellaneous Recommendations

Public Hearing:

July 26 7:30 PM-CCRABL City Council–**Final Report**

END