

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

**Truxtun Recreation Center  
Meeting Room 3  
June 8, 2010  
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

**Committee Members:**

|                        |                |                |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Whitney Chellis, Chair | Ted Levitt     | Gilbert Renaut |
| Brian Cahalan          | Joe Lyon       | Denise Worthen |
| Chris Fox              | Valerie Miller | Chuck Weikel   |
| John Giannetti         | Sean O’Neill   |                |
| Jerry Hardesty         | Vic Pascoe     |                |
| Lynne Jones            | Vince Quinlan  |                |

**Committee Resource Members:**

Charles Grayston, Vice Chair

**City Staff:**

Sally Nash  
Jacqui Rouse

**Parties of Interest:**

1 member of the public

**General Notes:**

The **Chair** opened the meeting at 6:04 pm. The agenda for the meeting was to discuss a proposed simplified fee structure and different license types.

The General Manager of O’Brian’s gave a short presentation on TIPS training that he organizes for servers in the area. He also showed a new technology available to bar owners—the ID Visor, that can scan driver’s licenses for fake IDs. He explained that this technology could one day be networked from bar to bar, which would help identify problem patrons.

Committee member **Brian Cahalan** then began to discuss a proposed simplified fee structure that he and fellow committee member **John Giannetti** had begun working on. Their calculations began by rolling back the liquor license fees to the Fiscal Year 2009 rates, before the 54% increase. They then pro-rated the amount of the fees for on-premises sales based on the number of seats in the establishment. There would be additional fees for such add-ons as 2:00AM hours, Off-Premises Sales, and Amplified Entertainment. The Committee agreed with the principals behind the proposed fee structure, but agreed a few adjustments would be necessary.

The Committee then moved into a discussion of whether the City should and could create a new license category that would encompass the definition of a “Bar” and would have no food/alcohol sales ratio requirement. Staff member **Jacqui Rouse** explained that the State definition of “Tavern” only allowed establishments to open until 12:00 am. The new category “Bar” could be open until 2:00 am. **Ms. Rouse** also explained that existing alcoholic beverage licenses were, in a sense, already structured to support essentially two categories—restaurants (with the existing B1 and B2 licenses) and bars (with the existing B3 and B4 licenses).

Committee member **Denise Worthen** explained an idea she had been working on—there could be a system with three types of licenses: restaurant, restaurant with accessory bar, and bar. The first category would be a permitted use. The second and third would be special exceptions. All restaurants would be subject to a food/alcohol ratio of some amount; however, a bar would not. This system would allow flexibility and would ease a transition from the current system to the proposed one because most existing establishments would not have to change their operating procedures.

The Committee then discussed whether three categories were less straightforward than two categories. There was also a discussion of the zoning requirements and how they would fit with the licenses. There was concern expressed about potential loss of grandfathered rights and about the exact mechanism of the transition to a new system. There was additionally concern expressed about any auditing requirement that might be necessary to enforce ratio total. Several Committee members stated they would support an affidavit to attest to ratios, but not an audit.

At the end of the meeting, it was suggested that everyone review the sheet with the proposed three types of licenses. Any questions can be sent to Sally Nash in advance of next week’s meeting.

Committee member **Chris Fox** requested that at the next meeting, the Committee should vote on whether to have a cap on the number of licenses. **Vince Quinlan** asked for more information regarding the special exception process.

**Closing:**

The next meeting of the Committee will be June 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in **Meeting Room 3**. The Committee will discuss and vote on license cap recommendations.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:55 pm.**

END