

**Town of Stoneham
Liquor Licensing Authority
Minutes of Meeting of
February 28, 2012**

Chairman Rotondi called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

Members present: John F. DePinto
 Richard S. Gregorio
 Robert W. Sweeney
 Frank Vallarelli
 R. Paul Rotondi, Chairman

Request for New Package Store All Alcohol License/Rock City Liquor, Inc. d/b/a McDonough's Liquors/9Central Street/Public Hearing

Selectman Gregorio read the Notice of Hearing. Atty. Houghton was present to represent the petitioner. Selectman DePinto asked where the \$250,000 deposit came from. Atty. Houghton said it came from the sale of Domino's. He said his client has no more Domino's. Chairman Rotondi opened the hearing to the public. Selectman DePinto moved to accept the New Package Store All Alcohol License request, seconded by Selectman Gregorio. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Gregorio
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Sweeney
Chairman Rotondi

Opposed:

Selectman Vallarelli

Voting was 4-1 in favor. **Motion carried.**

Alcohol Beverage Rules and Regulations including Restaurant Bar Seating/Public Hearing

Selectman DePinto read the Notice of Hearing. Selectman Sweeney said they are always being asked what they can do to bring business into the town. He said this was brought up to him. He said he would like to put a committee together and look at other communities' regulations, which is why he put this on the agenda. Selectman Gregorio remarked that Selectman Sweeney mentioned this to the Redstone representative at a meeting and he was in favor. Atty. Cicatelli said his client is trying to lease the shopping center. He said one of the tenants he has tried to attract for 8 years is a national restaurant chain. He said national restaurant chains do have an issue with some of the regulations. He said one is the number of seats at the bar. He said the other section is 16-98 that alcohol can't be served unless food is served but then says they can have two drinks. He said it is contradictory and he thinks the two drink maximum is dated. He said he would be more than willing to participate in any discussions. Selectman Vallarelli said he has

no problem with changing the two-drink maximum. Selectman Sweeney said they represent the 25,000 people in Stoneham. He said that with a larger restaurant it would probably generate 40-50 jobs plus the extra money the meals tax would bring in. Chairman Rotondi agreed they should look at it. Chairman Rotondi said they need data. Charles Houghton, 15 Kimball Drive said he thinks the Town's liquor laws make them less competitive with other towns. Fred Puorro, owner of Felicia's Restaurant, said he is not in favor of it. He said he doesn't think it's fair to the restaurants already in town who had to go with 15 seats. He said he wanted to do 25 seats. He said to do it now would cost 75 to 100 thousand and he would have to close. Selectman DePinto said even if they are non-voting members they should have two restaurant owners on the committee. Selectman DePinto moved to form a committee of two restaurant owners that are Chamber members, two Selectmen, and three citizens. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gregorio and **unanimously voted**. Selectmen DePinto and Sweeney volunteered.

Approve Request for Change of Manager/99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC/10 Main Street

Selectman DePinto moved approval of the Change of Manager for 99 Restaurant from Michael Wells to Brigid Terpko, seconded by Selectman Vallarelli. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

Approve LLA Minutes

Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 2/14/12 LLA minutes. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

Selectman DePinto moved to go back to Board of Selectmen. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Doherty