

**Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery
Approved Minutes**

Record of the Meeting of the Vermont Board of Liquor & Lottery held January 13, 2021 via web and phone.

Members Present: Martin Manahan, Chair, Sam Guy, Sabina Haskall, Ed Flanagan, and Tom Lauzon

Others Present: Patrick Delaney, Commissioner, Gary Kessler, Deputy Commissioner, Jacob Humbert, Assistant Attorney General, Wesley Lawrence, Board Counsel, Kim Walker, Retail Operations Director, Martin Prevost, Director of Licensing, John Brathwaite, Director of Singani63, Merrill Bent, Zafa wines LLC Lawyer, Heather Ross and Andrew Manitsky, Zafa wines LLC co-counsels, Alan Newman, entrepreneur

Public Comment:

- John Brathwaite referenced his product, Singani63, being delisted. Board members will consider his request.
- Zafa wines LLC cease and desist letter. Their legal counsels seeking clarity on their pending license applications.

Enforcement Matter:

- None

Agency news:

- Kim Walker asked for final approval from Board members about prospective Vista agency location in Newport.

Motion to approve. All agreed.

Licensing:

- Discussion by Martin Prevost about single license for non-attached buildings in close proximity.

Lottery:

- Sales seven million dollars up.
- Profit sales 8.6 % up. On track for record sales year.
- Update about discussion with Legislature about clarification with Kino, Sport Betting, and I lottery.

Commissioner Comments:

- December record number sales increase 5.5%. Working to setup Annex warehouse for storage.
- Legislature agenda.
- Johnson Stephens Consulting final report reviewed by Board members, that confirmed immediate need of construction of a warehouse facility with ample space.
- Chief Genest is in part time while deployed, Sgt Gaiotti is operations supervisor.
- Tobacco Compliance requirement submitted for annual grant.
- Gift cards sales data will be provided to Board Members.
- Warehouse logistics are strained due to volume in stores, record sales, deliveries dates. Board members requested to have discussion about these issues.

Others:

- Swearing in three new investigators for liquor control: Brandon King, Jennifer Norton and Jennifer Czachor.
- Discussion of to-go drinks. Commissioner explained about this subject to the legislature. Department collecting data. Board members advised regulations about this kind of serving.
- Alan Newman, independent distributor made a presentation about advantages to carry low alcohol spirits. Board members are willing to proceed with this discussion.

Motion for findings. All agreed.

Meeting entered to Executive Session: 10:57 am

Next Meeting: February 10, 2020