

License Commission, Room 118 Phone: 978-420-3630 Fax: 978-373-8490 nflynn@haverhillma.gov

LICENSE COMMISSION MINUTES Thursday June 5, 2025, at 6 PM-Room 202 Virtual and In-Person Meeting

Attending: Chairperson Laura Angus, Commissioner Linda Koutoulas, Commissioner Patrick Driscoll, Asst. City Solicitor Thomas C. Fallon, Esq., Sgt. Kevin Lynch – Haverhill Police Department, and License Commission Clerk Nicholas K. Flynn

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Approval of the minutes of the May 1, 2025 meeting

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2025 meeting. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

Vote: 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

[*Remaining Items were heard in the following order:* 5.1, 15.2-15.5, 15.1, 3.1, 3.2, 6.1, 7.1 & 9.1, 9.2, 8.1, 12.1]

3. CONTINUED BUSINESSS

3.1 Dharmesh Dave, Manager Anrush LLC d/b/a Bradford Liquors 91 South Main Street <u>-Request for 30-day deadline extension, from June 1, 2025 to July 1, 2025, of in-person TIPS recertification requirement</u> <u>-Continued from May 1, 2025 meeting</u>

Dharmesh Dave, manager, was present for this request. Chairperson Angus commented that she had read the emails between the manager and Clerk Flynn expressing his difficulty in finding an in-person TIPS course. She asked if the manager would be able to use any of the recently approved programs (*see Items 15.3-15.5*). Mr. Dave said he would use the MASSPACK BAT course and just needed to verify the availability of his employees for the course's two available dates of this month.



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Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the deadline extension request, from June 1, 2025 to July 1, 2025, and to allow the manager and staff to use the newly approved MASSPACK BAT training course as an alternative to an in-person TIPS course. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

Vote: 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

3.2 Diane Mazaraani, Manager

Grab N Go Market Inc. d/b/a Grab N Go Market 387 South Main Street <u>-Request for 30-day deadline extension, from June 1, 2025 to July 1, 2025, of</u> <u>in-person TIPS recertification requirement</u> <u>-Continued from May 1, 2025 meeting</u>

Diane Mazaraani, manager, was present for this request. She expressed she had communicated with Clerk Flynn regarding her difficulty in finding an in-person TIPS course and that she was pleased the Commission approved the new courses. Chairperson Angus thanked her for her efforts.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the deadline extension request, from June 1, 2025 to July 1, 2025, and to allow the manager and staff to use the newly approved MASSPACK BAT training course as an alternative to an in-person TIPS course.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

Vote: 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

4. MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS/REQUESTS

5. ONE DAY APPLICATIONS

5.1 Jennifer Matthews, Applicant

L'Arche Boston North, Inc.

53 Wingate Street

<u>-Application for One-Day Liquor License – All Alcohol – Outdoor Dining &</u> <u>Entertainment on August 21, 2025 for the hours of 5PM to 10PM</u> <u>-Has Police Department and Recreation Department approval</u> <u>-Pending Event Permit</u>



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Jennifer Matthews, applicant, was virtually present for this application. Chairperson Angus asked if the location would be the same as it was in the event's prior years; Commissioner Driscoll asked if the same protocols would be used as in prior years. Ms. Matthews confirmed both, stating this was the event's sixth year and that they intended to be "just as successful and safe." The applicant also confirmed the event would have Police detail and Fire Department detail.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the license for August 21, 2025 for the hours of 5PM to 10PM, pending Event Permit. *Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

6. ENTERTAINMENT APPLICATIONS

6.1 Barbara Gliklich, Manager Wicked Axe LLC d/b/a Wicked Axe 721 South Main Street <u>-Application for Amendment to Entertainment license to add Knife-Throwing to existing license</u> <u>-Has Police Department & Entertainment Zoning approval</u>

Barbara Gliklich, manager, was present for this application. She was joined by staff, including two members of The International Axe Throwing Federation (IATF). Amanda Mann, director of operations, was also present virtually. Chairperson Angus remarked that some of the Commissioners and Sgt. Kevin Lynch had had the opportunity to look at examples of the knives before the meeting began, and that they appeared to be double-edged. Ms. Mann confirmed they were but said that the knives were "very, very dull."

Sgt. Kevin Lynch appeared to comment. He stated he had reviewed state law pertaining to per se dangerous weapons and that sharpness had nothing to do with an object's qualification as such. According to M.G.L. c.269 § 10, double-edged knives are considered dangerous weapons. He suggested this application be postponed until a potential exception could be found. Ms. Mann said that Wicked Axe were members of ITAF and that they exclusively purchased knives from them for their sporting purposes. Sgt. Lynch restated that he was not aware if the law provided an exception for sporting events and would need to inquire further. Ms. Mann asked if she could connect the Sergeant with the Federation so he could learn



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more about its rules that Wicked Axe follows. Sgt. Lynch said he required approval from state law and not the Federation. Chairperson Angus agreed that the application should be postponed until a sporting event exception could be found. Commissioner Driscoll inquired if there was a difference in classification between single-edged and double-edged knives for exhibition purposes. Ms. Mann replied yes and that single-edged knives belonged to the World Knife Throwing League which Wicked Axe is not a part of. She said Wicked Axe was trying to figure out how to offer knife-throwing with their knives that met the statute's regulations. She also claimed that the sides of their knives are incapable of cutting whatsoever, and that only the tip needed to be sharp enough to hit the wooden target. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if knives brought in by patrons would be reviewed to ensure compliance with state regulations. Ms. Munn said yes and that the Federation had rules in place to ensure full safety at all times. Atty. Fallon interjected to say that he believed the Commission's "hands were tied" as the statute specifically refers to knives being double-edged irrespective of their sharpness. He added that the Commission could not approve this application unless an exception to M.G.L. c.269 § 10 could be found, and that the Federation's own rules were irrelevant. Ms. Munn said she understood and simply wanted to explain the safety rules they have in place for patrons coming in with their own knives. Commissioner Driscoll asked if Wicked Axe would be amenable to using single-edged knives instead – Ms. Munn responded that their Federation's rules did not allow for it. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if the IATF had any facilities in other Massachusetts municipalities with approved double-edged knives - Ms. Munn said she believed Wicked Axe, and therefore Haverhill, would be the first.

David, from Wicked Axe, appeared. He clarified that the IATF did not have rules forbidding single-edged knives – the double-edged knives they had on hand were simply the ones that the IATF provided them with. He specified that the single-edged knives just needed to meet certain qualifications overseen by the IATF. The Commission said they were amenable to approving single-edged knives and, if an exception to the law could be ascertained, amenable to approving double-edged knives at a future time. Chairperson Angus asked if the targets for the knives would be the same as those for the axes. Ms. Munn said yes but that it would be exclusive to "experienced throwers" and occur only in IATF league lanes. The Chairperson asked if the activity would take place every night and Ms. Munn said they were considering 2-3 times a week at this time. The Chairperson also asked if the league lanes would be distinct, and the staff confirmed they would be separate from the other axe-throwing lanes.



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Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Amendment to the existing Entertainment license to add Knife-Throwing, with the Restriction that only singleedged knives can be used so as to abide by M.G.L. c.269 § 10. (with the option to reapply for an amendment if an exception could be found to allow double-edged knives in compliance with the statute) *Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

7. COMMON VICTUALLER APPLICATIONS

7.1 John F. Soraghan, Applicant Duffy's Diner Two LLC d/b/a Duffy's Diner 8 Knipe Road <u>-Application for new Common Victualler license for Monday through Sunday</u> <u>for the hours of 6AM to 1:30PM</u> <u>-Pending Business Occupancy</u>

Items 7.1 & 9.1 were heard together. Motions were made separately.

John F. Soraghan, applicant, was present for this application. Chairperson Angus expressed she was concerned that it took Mr. Soraghan almost a year to apply for his license, as he had bought Duffy's Diner in August 2024. Mr. Soraghan said he only became aware of the discrepancy during his liquor license application process, and believed that purchasing the business would transfer the license over. He added that he did renew the license in November 2024 and his inspections in January 2025 – he just accidentally did it under the old license/Business Entity name. He explained that he purchased the business from his father and has the exact same full name as him. Chairperson Angus noted that the d/b/a had not changed but the Entity name had.

Chairperson Angus asked the applicant about his experience in the business. Mr. Soraghan replied he started working at his father's diner in Plaistow, NH when he was 12 years old, that he helped his father open Duffy's Diner when he was 18, worked at Joseph's Trattoria for three years, and worked a catering job during college. He eventually returned to Duffy's Diner before purchasing the business from his father. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if the diner has had or would have any changes, and Mr. Soraghan replied there would not aside from menu items. Chairperson Angus asked if he had any experience serving alcohol – the applicant





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said he did from working at Joseph's Trattoria and the catering job. Chairperson Angus inquired if all the TIPS certificates received in the application covered all the servers that would serve alcohol. Mr. Soraghan confirmed so and explained it was also a requirement from his insurance company to obtain Liquor Liability. Chairperson Angus reminded the applicant that once the certificates had expired, he and his staff would need to recertify through an approved option and not the online course (*see Items 15.4-15.5*), and reminded him that a new application would be required if he wished to extend his business hours. She then asked if Duffy's Diner had any TVs or radios – Mr. Soraghan said there were none.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the new Common Victualler license for Monday through Sunday for the hours of 6AM to 1:30PM, pending Business Occupancy.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

8. OUTDOOR DINING APPLICATIONS

8.1 Mohamed Machkour, Manager Wicked Big Cafe, LLC d/b/a Wicked Big Cafe
19 Essex Street

<u>Application for Outdoor Dining without Alcohol</u>
<u>Has Inspectional, Health, Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments'</u>
<u>Approval</u>
<u>Pending Sidewalk Obstruction Bond</u>
<u>Pending Final Building Inspection</u>

Chairperson Angus remarked that the Obstruction Bond had been received. Mohamed Machkour was not present for this application, but the Commission did not feel his presence was necessary as his application was in order. Chairperson Angus verified if the manager would need Engineering Department approval – Clerk Flynn clarified that, as Item 15.2 had been previously approved, a new requirement for new Outdoor Dining applicants using a public right-of-way would be to obtain the City Engineer's approval to ensure full ADA compliance.



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Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Outdoor Dining without Alcohol application, pending Engineering Department approval and the Final Building Inspection.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

9. ALCOHOL/ABCC APPLICATIONS

9.1 John F. Soraghan, Applicant Duffy's Diner Two LLC d/b/a Duffy's Diner
8 Knipe Road
<u>Application for new §12 Restaurant All-Alcohol license for Monday through Saturday for the hours of 8AM to 1:30PM and Sunday for the hours of 10AM to 1:30PM
<u>Pending 304 Alcohol Occupancy</u>
<u>Pending ABCC Approval</u>
</u>

Items 7.1 & 9.1 were heard together. See Item 7.1.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the application for the new §12 Restaurant All-Alcohol license for Monday through Saturday for the hours of 8AM to 1:30PM and Sunday for the hours of 10AM to 1:30PM, pending 304 Alcohol Occupancy and ABCC approval.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

9.2 Chad Pfeil, Proposed Manager

Wilbur M. Comeau Post#4, American Legion, Inc. d/b/a American Legion 1314 Main Street -Application for Change of Manager from Marcelline Carves to Chad Pfeil -Pending ABCC Approval

Chad Pfeil, proposed manager, and David Diceglie, corporation Treasurer, were virtually present for this application. Mr. Diceglie explained the change requested was not due to any past illegalities but to use a member of the club's board to foster an increase in membership and community involvement. Mr. Pfeil introduced



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himself, explaining he had been a longstanding active member of Post#4 and was deeply committed to upholding its values and serving members of the community. As assistant treasurer, he said he has gained a thorough understanding of regulations regarding the service of alcohol and wished to become manager to "ensure the continued smooth operation and compliance" with regulations. He said he was prepared to be a responsible holder of the license. Chairperson Angus asked about his experience in the service of alcohol. Mr. Pfeil replied he had previously worked as a waiter and in POS sales of alcohol that required age verification.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager application, pending ABCC approval. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

10. MOTOR VEHICLE APPLICATIONS11. CARRY IN LICENSE APPLICATIONS12. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

12.1 Nancy Ann Pegnam, Manager

Crescent Yacht Club 30 Ferry Street -Item for Discussion: Private Club Advertising to the Public

Richard LeBlanc, club President, was present on behalf of Ms. Pegnam who was unable to attend. Chairperson Angus inquired if Ms. Pegnam was still acting manager – Mr. LeBlanc said she was not and that they were in the process of working on applying for Change of Manager to acting manager Richard Willett, but noted that Ms. Pegnam was still a "lifetime member" and active in the club's ongoings.

Chairperson Angus asked if the president understood that the club was not allowed to advertise club events as open to the public. Mr. LeBlanc said he did and told all personnel responsible for advertising to cease doing so after Clerk Flynn brought it to his attention. He said advertisements had included "Crescent Yacht Club and its members invite you to" and believed that was acceptable as is. He added that the club was in the process of changing all their Facebook pages to "private" and was waiting for the social media company to finalize changes. He then said advertising was being updated to reflect that only guests signed-in by club members could attend. The president continued by sharing a history of the



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club and said 90% of its events' profits are invested into the community. Commissioner Koutoulas thanked him for donations made to the City but verified if Mr. LeBlanc was aware that the club was members-only and that its "friends" could only be guests signed in by members and in their presence at all times. The Commissioner added that the Eagle Tribune published an article about a club event three days prior that does not clarify only signed-in guests could attend. She then stated that she understood the club needed to host events to maintain finances but that members still needed to sign in guests on a logbook, and asked if the event described in the article would take place on the club's licensed premises. The president confirmed so and said they already had a list of attendees, so that the club could ensure all guests were signed in and wore wristbands to acquire alcohol. He also added that they were working on a process to encourage regular guests to become members. Commissioner Koutoulas then noted one advertisement mentioned a raffle and inquired if the club had a raffle permit – the president said it did.

Chairperson Angus asked Mr. LeBlanc if he was aware that any changes in officers would require an amended application. The president said he was and a list was submitted in April. Chairperson Angus clarified she was not referring to the yearly list submitted to the ABCC but to the fact that any changes from the previous ABCC-approved list of officers would require the amendment, and advised that the intended change of manager application would be rejected if there were any discrepancies regarding the officers.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to place this matter on file. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

13. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

14. COMMUNICATIONS

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Napolis Operators Inc d/b/a Napolis Tavern 119 Cedar Street <u>-Requirement to make Findings of Fact over rescinded Liquor License</u> <u>application from March 2, 2023, following ABCC remand order from</u> <u>April 9, 2025</u>



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No one representing the corporation appeared. Assistant City Solicitor Thomas C. Fallon presented the matter at hand. On April 6, 2023, a public hearing was held where a prior approval (from March 2, 2023) of an All-Alcoholic Beverages license for Napolis Operators Inc was rescinded. Said decision was forwarded to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC), dated April 12, 2023. The applicant appealed to the ABCC, who then remanded the matter back to the Haverhill License Commission (dated April 9, 2025) to put their reasons in writing for the recission. Commissioner Driscoll and Chairperson (then Commissioner) Angus had voted on the matter on April 6, 2023. Commissioner Koutoulas, being a new addition to the board since then, reviewed the recordings of the meetings in question, as did Atty. Fallon himself and Clerk Flynn. The purpose of this agenda item was for the Commission to provide reasons for the previous decision made. Atty. Fallon summarized the written decision and Findings of Fact made:

Residents living near 119 Cedar Street attended the March 2, 2023 and the April 6, 2023 meetings to voice their opposition to the application. A representative from the Haverhill Police Department had also attended to recite past problems with previous taverns at that location due to the location itself. Residents cited issues with lack of parking, small footprint of the building (i.e. no designated area for public congregation by tavern patrons), outdoor smoking, etc. The consensus was that the area is a residential neighborhood and therefore a poor location for a tavern. For those reasons, the License Commission at the time had decided that it was not an appropriate location for a liquor license as it was "not conducive to public convenience and public good," and voted to rescind the previously approved application.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to accept the Findings of Fact and reason for recission as stated by Atty. Fallon. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

15.2 Proposal for Haverhill License Commission's Outdoor Dining Regulations

Chairperson Angus remarked that the ABCC no longer regulates any Alterations of Premises to include Outdoor Dining areas and instead leaves it to local municipalities. She further stated that these regulations would be to go along with the City's existing ordinance and to ensure proper protocols are still being followed



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as they were with the ABCC's involvement.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Proposal and adopt the new set of Outdoor Dining Regulations. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

15.3 Discussion on potential approval and adoption of MASSPACK's Beverage Alcohol Training (BAT) program (in-person & virtual) for future certification or recertification requirements

Initially, no representatives from the program appeared. Chairperson Angus remarked this program was solely geared towards Off-Premises retail licensees, such as package stores or gas stations. She then stated she believed only the in-person training option ought to be approved.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve MASSPACK's BAT certification program, for in-person courses only and solely for Section 15 licensees. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

Later, during the discussion of Item 15.5, Massachusetts Package Stores Association (MASSPACK) Executive Director Robert Mellion appeared remotely. He said he had been present since the beginning of the meeting but hadn't been let in the Google Meet call. The Commission apologized and invited him to speak about BAT. Mr. Mellion said MASSPACK has been certifying stores for several decades, claiming it was the "standard across the state" for off-premises alcohol-retailers training as it was "designed specifically to [M.G.L.] Ch. 138." He also explained that the virtual Zoom course option was live and fully monitored, and participants could not pass the course if they turned off their cameras or otherwise did not demonstrate full engagement. He added that participants must score 80% on an assessment following the course to obtain certification. The Exec. Dir. then said there was also an online course option done at participants' leisure, where they would need to pass several assessments to be eligible for certification, but that "most people do the in-person or they do the virtual classes." Virtual classes are offered monthly and inperson courses are offered on demand. Mr. Mellion stated that these courses were "in alignment with the ABCC and regulators across the state because [they] get their



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feedback"

Commissioner Koutoulas asked if participants' IDs were verified live at the start of virtual courses. Mr. Mellion replied they had never had to do this in the past because the stores are the ones that reach out to them and register participants with MASSPACK, whom are then checked into the course one at a time. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if there were any safeguards in the event that a participant with limited English skills tried to have a different person take the course for them. The Exec. Dir. claimed this was "not a reality" and would be "actionable fraud." The Commissioner further inquired what the process was for verifying and checking in participants. Mr. Mellion said the participants or the store they work for supply information about the participants prior to attending the virtual or in-person course. He said he understood the Commissioner's concern about verifying identity but that "practically [speaking] it's never happened." The Commissioner asked why IDs would not be verified online if they are for in-person courses. Mr. Mellion asked how this could be done practically if there were 40 people taking the virtual course at a time, and how he could be sure that the ID was valid even if they did verify it. Commissioner Koutoulas replied that the latter would be "truly fraud" and that the program would have evidence of such. Mr. Mellion claimed this has never happened in his ten years. He also said he has worked with people who had difficulty with English before, adding that the in-person option was beneficial as he could spend extra time with participants that needed it, and that he has coordinated with municipalities in the past to provide translators and assessment exams in Spanish when necessary. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if Spanish exams were available for the virtual course option but Mr. Mellion said they were not. Commissioner Koutoulas thanked the Executive Director for his presentation and explained that the Commission wished to tighten up regulations. Mr. Mellion said regulations needed to be "reasonable" or businesses would not be able to be in compliance. Commissioner Driscoll asked if it was not possible for IDs to be verified live for the virtual course. Mr. Mellion said they could if that's what it would take for the Haverhill License Commission to accept the program.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to amend the prior motion to allow Section 15 licensees to use MASSPACK's BAT program's virtual course in addition to its inperson course, with the stipulation that participants' photo IDs are verified live to ensure the correct people are taking the course. *Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.





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15.4 Discussion on potential approval and adoption of DrinkMaster Bartending School's Virtual Interactive TIPS Course for future certification or recertification requirements

Chairperson Angus commented that Clerk Flynn had confirmed in writing with the program's instructor that the virtual course was well-monitored, as any participants who turned their cameras off would not pass the course. Commissioner Driscoll remarked it was beneficial to have a remote option "in this day and age," so long as it was in fact fully monitored.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve DrinkMaster Bartending School's Virtual Interactive TIPS Course for future certification or recertification Requirements.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

15.5 Discussion on potential approval and adoption of ServSafe Alcohol training Program (in-person & virtual) for future certification or recertification requirements

Chairperson Angus stated she was concerned about the course being "really inperson" and the fact that Middlesex County required the stipulation that certificates granted by ServSafe have expiration dates. She suggested this potential approval be tabled until more information could be obtained. Commissioner Koutoulas said the Commission could approve the in-person course only and require certificates to have expiration dates of three years.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the ServSafe Alcohol training Program, for in-person courses only and with the stipulation that certificates include expiration terms of three years.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

Following this item, Commissioner Koutoulas expressed that she wished to amend the Commission's prior approval of the Training for Intervention ProcedureS (TIPS) program to only approve the program's in-person trainings (*aside from the new option approved in 15.4*). Commissioner Driscoll agreed with this. Chairperson



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Angus stated that such a motion would actually be to *approve* the TIPS program, as opposed to amending a prior approval, as it was unclear if any prior approval had been officially codified in regulations.

Diane Mazaraani, Manager of Grab N Go Market, appeared to ask a question. She claimed that most trainings done in Massachusetts, for both on-premises and offpremises businesses, were done online. She asked if this decision to only approve inperson trainings would extend to off-premises businesses as well, as "they don't have [an in-person training for off-premises] available" and she has had "very much difficulty" finding an in-person training option through the TIPS program for her recertification requirement. She asked if, once her new certificate expired from her recertification, she could do the online TIPS course "as any other store would." Commissioner Koutoulas replied "not to this point unless TIPS can show that their [online] program is robust and has protections as far as the training goes." Chairperson Angus further commented that an issue with online TIPS courses is that there is no way of verifying the identity of people taking the course. She then said if the TIPS program could prove they conduct fully monitored online courses, then they could be considered for approval.

Richard Willett, acting manager of Crescent Yacht Club, appeared to ask if current TIPS certificates acquired from online courses are invalid. Chairperson Angus clarified that certificates that have already been obtained will continue to meet the Commission's approval requirements until they expire. Licensees and staff will then need to use an in-person course or the monitored Zoom course (*see Item 15.4*). Dharmesh Dave, manager of Bradford Liquors, appeared to ask if Zoom courses were acceptable for off-premises businesses. Chairperson Angus clarified that the DrinkMaster Bartending School Zoom course (catered towards on-premises businesses) was the only Zoom course the Commission was aware of that met its certification requirements. Mr. Dave asked if MASSPACK's Zoom course would be eligible. The Chairperson responded that it would be as long as MASSPACK could prove that their course was fully monitored, and they verify IDs of participants. Mr. Dave asked if this meant the MASSPACK course would need to be approved at a later date – Commissioner Koutoulas replied that this would be the case for the Zoom option.

MASSPACK Exec. Dir. then appeared – see Item 15.3.

Mr. Patel, owner of Shamrock Liquors, appeared to ask if TIPS certifications needed to be redone during License Renewal season at the end of 2025 or when the certificates expired. The Commission clarified that the certificates would continue to meet approval requirements until their expiration dates.



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Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the TIPS program for future certification or recertification requirements, with the stipulation that unmonitored virtual courses do not meet approval requirements. *Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to adjourn. *Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded. *Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

No Public Comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas K. Flynn License Commission Clerk