



ATCC

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna K. Miller
Lt. Governor

Jeffrey A. Kelly
Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

Alan Silverstein
CHAIRMAN

Robert Poole
SECRETARY

Betty Buck
COMMISSIONER

Eric Morrissette
COMMISSIONER

Dourakine Rosarion
COMMISSIONER

Elizabeth Kromm
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

James E. Hock Jr.
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF STATE POLICE

June 2024 Minutes

DATE: June 20, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Maryland Alcohol, Tobacco, & Cannabis
Commission Headquarters
(Meeting conducted via Google Meets, recorded for replay)

PRESENT: Chair Alan Silverstein
Vice Chair Barbara Wahl
Secretary Robert Poole
Commissioner Elizabeth (Betty) Buck
Commissioner Eric Morrissette
Legal & Legislative Director Tom Akras

ABSENT: Executive Director Jeff Kelly

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alan Silverstein called the meeting of the Maryland Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission to order at 3:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Alan Silverstein called for a motion to approve the May 16, 2024, meeting minutes. Vice Chair Barbara Wahl made a motion to approve, which Commissioner Elizabeth (Betty) Buck seconded. All members present voted in favor and unanimously approved the previous meeting minutes.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Legal and Legislative Director Tom Akras reported on the enforcement activity for the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission since the last meeting.

a. Enforcement Activity

- Since May 16, 2024, the ATCC's Field Operations Bureau (FOB) conducted enforcement activities, including three hundred seventy-two (372) tobacco and cannabis inspections and two hundred thirty-three (233) alcohol inspections. Twenty-four (24) of these inspections resulted in reportable incidents.
 - Reportable Incidents: From these twenty-four (24) reportable incidents, the FOB seized:
 - One hundred thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight (113,758) other tobacco products (OTP), yielding a tax loss of \$77,720.98.
 - Two thousand five hundred and twenty-four (2,524) packs of unstamped cigarettes, yielding a tax loss of \$4,525.00.
 - Sixty-one (61) containers of distilled spirits.
 - These incidents took place in Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Calvert County, Dorchester County, Frederick County, Harford County, Prince George's County, Washington County and Wicomico County. Including several repeats within some of these counties.

b. HR / Staffing

- Open Positions
 - Regulatory and Research Section Manager: This position posting has been closed and applications are currently being reviewed. Phone and in-person interviews will begin in the next couple of weeks. The goal is to hire for this position in July.
 - Licensing Specialists (2): First round of interviews are being conducted in-person this week and we are hoping to hire for both positions in July.

c. Legal & Legislative

- Legislative Update: Legal and Legislative Director Tom Akras presented the state-wide bills that were passed during the 2024 General Assembly Session.
 - HB808/SB456 – 3rd Party Delivery: Authorized local jurisdictions to pass rules and regulations that allow third party contractors to contract

with retailers to conduct deliveries on behalf of retailers ONLY within that jurisdiction.

- o SB1041 – Direct to Consumer Delivery for Maryland Manufacturers: Allows Maryland manufacturers (breweries, wineries, and distilleries) to utilize their employees to conduct direct to consumer deliveries.
- o HB1083/SB1001 – Class 4 Limited Winery License – Requirements and Authorizations: Amends the language in the law to allow wine to be made from “Maryland Grow Agricultural Products” so wineries can produce wine using other products such as onions and dandelions. Also increases the amount of bulk wine wineries can purchase from 25% to 75%.
- o HB0914/SB746 – Winery and Vineyard Economic Development Grant Program: Amends the law to allow for qualifying applicants to apply for grants that provide reimbursement for the prior year’s capital expenses related to the establishment of or capital improvements for a winery.
- o HB0042/SB220 – Public Health Services and Protections: Eliminates the military exemption that allowed Maryland retailers to sell tobacco products to an individual who was between the ages of 18 and 21 with a valid military ID.
- o HB0238/SB244 – Clean Indoor Air Act: Adds vaping to the list of prohibited use of tobacco products within an indoor public space. Also put a 2-year prohibition on Tobacconists obtaining NEW alcoholic beverage licenses.
- o SB1056 – Tobacco Retail Modernization Act of 2024: Increases the annual fee from \$25 to \$300 for local tobacco product licenses, requires that all retail locations be inspected by local health departments, increases the penalties for retailers that sell tobacco products to individuals under the age of 21, requires that tobacco products be placed behind the counter and that transactions involving tobacco must be face-to-face.
- o HB0253 – Cannabis Reform Alterations: Reduces the number of commissioners from 7 to 5 and specifically defines “cannabis nursery”.
- o HB0272 – Cannabis Licensing and Registration: Ensures only genuine owners, defined as those participating in profits and losses can apply for cannabis licenses.
- o HB0805 – Licensee Location Restrictions: Prohibits dispensaries from being located within 500 feet of pre-existing playgrounds, recreations centers, libraries, public parks, and places of worship. Increases the

distance required between dispensaries to a half mile and allows protests to be filed with the MCA against licensed dispensaries when at least 10 individuals within 1,000 feet of the location cite law violations or disturbances to public peace.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Fells Point Enforcement: ATCC is actively supporting the Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore City Liquor Board in enforcing the unlicensed and untaxed sale of alcoholic beverages in Fells Point. This initiative is scheduled to continue through August.
- b. Commission Changes: This is Vice-Chair Barbara Wahl's last meeting as a member of the ATCC Commission. Dourakine Rosarion has been appointed and will officially start as a member of the ATCC Commission on July 1, 2024.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Betty Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chair Al Silverstein seconded. All members present voted in favor of adjourning the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM.

** Next meeting is July 18, 2024, at 3:00 PM.*

I certify that the foregoing minutes represent the minutes of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission meeting on June 20, 2024.

 (Jul 24, 2024 13:49 EDT)

Robert Poole, Secretary

Jul 24, 2024

Date







Mintues_June 2024 - Final

Final Audit Report

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