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Governor

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Lt. Governor

Jeffrey A. Kelly
Executive Director



Alan Silverstein, Chairman
Barbara Wahl, Vice-Chair
Robert Poole, Secretary
Eric Morrissette, Commissioner
Betty Buck, Commissioner
Dennis Schrader, Secretary of Health
Col. Woodrow W. Jones III, Secretary of State Police

MARYLAND ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION

July 2022 Minutes

DATE: July 21st, 2022

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Commission Headquarters
(Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams, recorded for replay)

PRESENT: Chair Alan Silverstein
Vice-Chair Barbara Wahl
Commissioner Elizabeth (Betty) Buck
Commissioner Eric Morrissette
Commissioner Robert Poole
Director Dana Moncrief, Maryland Department of Health
Chief of Staff James Hock, Maryland State Police

ABSENT: Jeffrey Kelly, Executive Director, Alcohol and Tobacco Commission

OTHERS: William George, Director, Field Enforcement Division
Thomas R. Akras, Director, Legal and Legislative Division

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alan Silverstein called the meeting of the Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Commission to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Alan Silverstein called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for June 16th, 2022, Commissioner Buck moved to approve, Commissioner Poole seconded the motion, and all members present voted in favor and unanimously approved the previous meeting's minutes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director George gave an accounting of the enforcement activity for the FED of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission since the last meeting.



a. Enforcement activity

- The FED enforcement efforts since our last meeting yielded the discovery of thirteen (13) separate violations that resulted in criminal or administrative charges being placed against fifteen (15) individuals which involved both alcohol and tobacco related offenses.
 - 97,594 sticks of OTP and 3,210 unstamped cigarettes were seized in tobacco-related incidents.
 - 54 containers of infused distilled spirits with fruit juice or pouches, 61 containers of distilled spirits, 24 containers of wine, and 190 containers of beer, were seized in alcohol-related incidents.
 - The violations occurred in the jurisdictions of Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Allegany, Washington, Wicomico, and Prince George's County.

b. License/Permit Renewals

- The Regulatory Administrative Service Bureau's Licensing Unit has renewed 1,041 Direct Wine permits along with 246 other various licenses and permits since our last meeting.

c. Training and Information Advisory

- Published the first training and information advisory for the fiscal year through the .govDelivery System which was Advisory 23-001, that went out on July 15th, 2022. This was published due to inquiries from members of the alcohol industry pertaining to Class 6 Limited Wine Wholesaler License and Class 7 Limited Beer Wholesaler License. The advisory provided clarification, privileges and limitations of both licenses and also identified commonly observed trade practice violations.

d. Summary of the .govDelivery System

- This is the method of delivering advisories to interested parties that allows for the collection of data and tracks the percentage of the successful deliveries and tracks the number of subscribers who opened the attachments which is the advisory. For example, Advisory 23-001, 99% of subscribers received the email, and 37 % of subscribers opened the attachment as of today.

e. MMCC Workgroup

- ATC and MMCC are working together on a report for the general assembly that is due December 2022.



- This report will give detailed recommendations from both agencies on how to combine agencies without negatively impacting operations, benefits, and pensions of the employees.
- ATC Executives were invited and attended a presentation and tour by a MMCC licensee which is licensed as a grower, manufacturer/processor, and a dispensary.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (MDH) REPORT

Director Dana Moncrief provided the Commission an update on inspections

a. FDA Inspections

- MDH conducts inspections of retailers throughout the state of Maryland. This unit ensures that these retailers are following all federal tobacco control youth access laws. There was previous a stop-order on the program due to Covid-19. As of the end of May the program has resumed.
- MDH staff are currently conducting inspections.
- Many violations that have been cited.
- MDH has delivered materials to all tobacco retailers to display in storefronts. These include quick reference guides on various laws and how to check ID's, posters include no sale to minors.

NEW BUSINESS

- University of Maryland (UM) representative has reached out to FED about developing a fermentation science program.
- The inquiry was whether or not there was an exception allowing students under 21 to “sip and spit” alcoholic beverages without consuming.
- Tom Akras conducted thorough research on the inquiry and concluded there was currently no exception.
- FED has requested additional information from UM staff and will work to make recommendations and facilitate the Chair and Commissioners opportunity to do the same.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Alan Silverstein moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Robert Poole and Commissioner Barbara Wahl seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.



**Next regular meeting date is August 18th, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.*

I certify that the foregoing minutes represent the minutes of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission meeting on July 21st, 2022.



Robert Poole, Secretary

August 18th 2022
Date

