The meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County was held on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 1:00 P. M in the County Commissioners Conference Room, Chesapeake Building, Leonardtown, Maryland.

Moses Saldaña, Chairman
Linda Palchinsky, Vice Chair
Aaron Mathis, Member
Betty Currie, Member
Kevin Hall, Member
James Tanavage, Attorney
Tamara Hildebrand, Board Administrator
Suzan Whilden, Sr. Office Specialist
Garland Thompson, Inspector
Cpl. James Stone, Alcohol Enforcement Officer

Chairman Moses Saldaña called the meeting to order and introduced the Board to the audience. Member Hall moved to approve the minutes of March 12, 2015 and it was seconded by Member Currie. Motion carried.

New Business:
- Applications:

Sunset Cove
Application for Joseph N. Salvo & Samantha A. Irwin to purchase a Class B (Restaurant) BWL license & t/a Sunset Cove (Sunset Cove, LLC), 16244 Millers Wharf Rd., Ridge, MD 20680. And requesting extension of premise & extra serving counter for cabana bar & picnic area.
Samantha Irwin and Joe Salvo appeared before the Board to request a Class B (Restaurant) BWL license. Parties were sworn in. Ms. Irwin stated that she has been a license holder in the past at this same location, is aware of the local rules and regulations and has also taken the TAMS training. Ms. Irwin also stated that no violations were ever received during her time as a licensee. She is aware of the restrictions of alcohol not being allowed on the docks or outside of the extension of premise area. It was stated that there is seating for 130 people and that the approval would be based on a conditional approval pending the Traders License, Health Department and Use and Occupancy. A 90 day conditional approval was granted. Member Mathis made the motion and it was seconded by Member Currie. Motion carried.
Other Business:

Board Administrator – Tamara Hildebrand

Ms. Hildebrand stated that all reservations have been made for the MALA Convention that will be held on May 9, 2015 in Ocean City, Maryland. There was a budget offset for personnel but it will all work out in the end. The issue continues with having to have Made in the USA items for the RAST grant but CAC was able to fund the items to have for this year’s RAST training. CAC has provided the bags, magnifying glasses and hand-outs for the training. Ms. Hildebrand, Cpl. Stone, and Mr. Thompson have been working together to stream-line the RAST program to make it efficient and effective but not too lengthy. Ms. Hildebrand provided the Board with the renewal information for the attorney’s contract for another year. Alcohol licenses are being picked up at the Treasures office.

Alcohol Enforcement Coordinator- Cpl. James Stone

Cpl. Stone stated that there had been a Sobriety Check Point set up for St. Patrick’s Day and 241 cars went through the check point. At which 42 warnings were written. CAC held a two hour training with Cpl. Stone’s assistance on proper ID check. Topics were fake ID identification as well as security features on driver’s licenses.

Board Inspector – Garland Thompson

Mr. Thompson made 15 inspections for the month of March.

License Beverage Association- Dave Dent

Mr. Dent gave a brief explanation of the ending of the legislative session for 2015. Nothing was voted on the Dram Shop bill or the bill for licensees to carry more than one license per county. SB 888 which was the Task Force Study bill on alcohol sold on grocery stores never made it to vote this year. The FDA powdered alcohol was stopped by a ban approved by the Comptroller of the State to do more studying of this issue. The Comptroller has great concerns surrounding this so the SB made it a 2 year ban and the HB a 13 month ban. Mr. Dent has asked the Board for consideration to make the RAST training a mandatory requirement for first time licensees before they apply for an alcohol licenses. Another legislative issue Mr. Dent will be introducing for 2016 session will be a wine tasting regulation that will model an across the board county to county rule for cost restriction. LBA stated to the Board that they have written a letter to the Sheriff’s office to give Cpl. Stone recognition for the fine work he has been doing in alcohol enforcement in St. Mary’s County.
Community Alcohol Coalition- Kendall Wood

Ms. Wood stated that April was Alcohol Awareness Month and that CAC has been advertising binge drinking and portion control at CSM- Leonardtown and their other campuses. Ms. Wood also wanted to bring to the attention of the Board the appreciation for the help that Cpl. Stone gave CAC at the ID training. Ms. Wood stated there were participants from not only St. Mary’s County but also Calvert and Charles Counties and more participants wanted to come after the class was held. Ms. Wood explained her working with Ms. Hildebrand with getting the bags together for the RAST classes and also working with Cpl. Stone putting together bags for high school seniors filled with information from CAC on binge drinking. Ms. Wood has also worked closely with Highway Safety getting wine bottle bags out to alcohol retailers with safe driving information from CAC in them.

Member Mathis made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Vice-Chairman Palchinsky. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

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Suzan Whilden, Recording Secretary

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Linda Palchinsky, Vice Chair