

TOWN OF NAPLES
Planning Board Minutes
May 15, 2018
7:00 pm

Mr. Anton called the Planning Board meeting to order. Also present was Doug Bogdan, Barbara Adlard, John Thompson, Jim Allen, Alternates Jim Krainin and Rick Paraschak, and Code Enforcement Officer Renee Carter.

The Board reviewed the minutes from May 1, 2018. Barbara Adlard made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Doug Bogdan seconded the motion. The board was in favor 5-0.

New Business:

- 1.) An application for an Outdoor Entertainment Permit submitted by Gary Skellett of Gary's Olde Towne Tavern to permit Outdoor Entertainment weekly on Saturdays (June-September), until 11:00 pm.

Mr. Anton told the Board that this request had been brought up in the past to the Selectboard when the business was Bray's Brew Pub. At that point the neighbors were very against the idea, and the agreement was that it would be acoustic music only allowed 4 times a year, plus the Annual Blues Festival.

After reviewing a calendar, the dates requested would have a total of 13 Saturdays. Sam Merriam who lived near Gary's Olde Towne Tavern spoke to the Board regarding his opposition. He was satisfied with the four times a year that was previously allowed, but did not want to add more dates. Mr. Merriam explained it still was a compromise on both sides, and adding more dates would not be right as it was a long negotiation between the parties to allow the four Saturday dates per year.

Mrs. Adlard wanted to clarify that in the past the requirement on the four dates that were allowed past 9:00 pm outside, the condition was that the music was unplugged. Mr. Paraschak made the point that other venues that had Special Amusement permits with music inside, still open doors and windows and are not considered to be Outdoor Entertainment.

Gary Skellett addressed the Board regarding his application. He stated that his business was one of the few in town open all year. The way he was able to stay open during the winter months, was from the revenue made during the summer. Mr. Skellet said that if he was denied this permit, he would have music inside with the windows and doors open, until 12:30 am, and the people who would have left at 11:00 pm for the Outdoor Entertainment would be staying an hour and a half later.

Another neighbor asked the Board who would be enforcing the permit to end at 11:00 pm. Mr. Paraschak explained that the Code Enforcement Officer would be enforcing the Ordinance, but she would need to be alerted of any issues by someone as it would be after office hours.

Gabriel Merriam also spoke to the Board as a neighbor, he stated he was going to college, and the music outside kept him up at night. He mentioned it was less noticeable when music was inside.

Sam Merriam wanted a better solution to contain the noise, such as a different type of fencing or screening.

The Board took a ten-minute recess so the business owner and neighbors could have a discussion. The applicant presented the compromise they had decided to try for this year, as it was an annual permit.

John Thompson made a motion that Gary's Olde Towne Tavern be allowed the Outdoor Entertainment Permit after the Annual Blues Fest, and have up to 10 Saturdays with outside music from 8:00 pm until 11:00 pm until September 5th, 2018. Barbara Adlard seconded the motion. Mr. Bogdan thought that the Board should not rush to make a decision, as it was discussed in length years before. The Board was in favor 4-1.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Matthews
Administrative Assistant