



NLOC Meeting

January 23, 2019 3:00 – 4:00PM
Portland Downtown – 549 Congress Street

Board members: Sarah Martin, Mike Erickson

Committee members: Sarah Martin, Mike Erickson

Guests: Tony Austin, Sgt. Joe Ezepek, Mike Lizette, Josh Miranda, Bob Waitkevitch, Tanner Herget, Jessica Hanscombe

Staff: Casey Gilbert, Taffy Eaton, Amy Geren

Minute 1. Welcome: Sarah opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. Sgt. Ezepek introduced himself and said that he is attending the meeting in Kevin Cashman's absence.

Minute 2. Review and acceptance of December 18, 2018 meeting minutes: Mike Erickson made a motion to accept the minutes, Sarah Martin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Casey added that she, Amy Geren, and Sarah Martin met with Interim Police Chief Malloch and Lt. Cashman to discuss receiving monthly crime reports as opposed to the current annual reports we cover each month. Receiving monthly reports will allow the committee to be more proactive. Amy will reach out to Nancy at the PPD for the monthly reports, which will be provided for NLOC to review when they convene.

Minute 3. Review Night Life Issues/Calls for Service/License for February and March 2019 renewals: Sgt. Ezepek reviewed the calls for service in the packet. Discussion:

- Ri Ra assault – 1/1/18 male punched both bouncers and was retained until PPD arrived
- Oasis –
 - The licensee (Oasis) calls PPD when a fake ID is suspected. The Police then inspect the ID to confirm and action is taken as required.
 - 4 assaults –
 - 2/25/18 – an officer at Maine Med was flagged down by a nurse saying that a patient wanted to file a report about being assaulted at Oasis
 - 3/18/18 – 15-person fight outside
 - 7/28/18 – report indicates that staff pushed the complainant down the stairs. Complainant had tried to file a report with the officer on sight but was unable to. She had left the premises and refused an ambulance.
 - 8/11/18 –
 - Casey asked at which point do we (NLOC) need to address the liquor license holder? When do the number of or extent of calls for service rise to the level that we consider it an issue?
 - Sarah said that hopefully when we go to monthly reports, this should be more easily tracked.
 - Tony said that the State follows the City's lead on licensing approvals
 - Jessica assured the committee that these incidents are handled individually by PPD. There is a lot of background work going on between Business Licensing, the State, PPD and the license holders before the issue rises to NLOC.
 - City staff (Business Licensing, PPD and PFD) issues license renewals. City Council only approves initial license applications and entertainment licenses.

- Mike added that operator negligence needs to be tracked.
- Sarah and Jessica both support Oasis owner Ben and said he is very responsive.
- Amigo's assault - Bruce has been to PPD to work with them to help work on assault issues. He increased his security and added better cameras.
- Mike urged everyone present to continue to report graffiti so that Neighborhood Prosecutor Rich Bianculli can add each incident to the tagger's record in hopes of prosecution.
- Congress Bar & Grill – Sarah commented that their location on Congress Street probably increases the calls for service attributed to that address

Minute 4. Review of new and pending liquor licenses for February 2018: Jessica reviewed the applications going before City Council on February 4, 2019:

- Royale Lunch is going in the former Hero's Subs space on Center Street

Minute 5. Other business

- Sarah distributed the new Committee Member policies developed by the Governance Committee and approved by the Board for everyone's review. The intention of the policy is to clarify who can vote at a committee meeting (who is a member versus a guest). Regular attendance is required for membership and voting privileges.. If you want to be a voting committee member but may not be able to attend every meeting, add a proxy from your place of business to the form who will be able to attend in your absence.
 - Mike asked everyone present to pay attention to the attendance section – just send an email to Sarah or Mike if you are unable to attend and that will be an excused absence.
- Earned Paid Sick Leave proposed ordinance: Taffy will send information and updates about this policy topic to the NLOC committee email list.
 - Mike attended the last Health & Human Services Committee (HHS) meeting discussing the proposed ordinance and said there is a very vocal group in favor of the ordinance. He recommends attending these meetings and making public comment. Small business owners have been hesitant to speak out against it. Casey added that people can email City Councilors if they are uncomfortable making public comment.
 - Mike recommends reading the ordinance to determine which points are important to your business and addressing them to the City Council.
- Bob would like to ask the Board to support a vote against the proposed ordinance. Sarah suggested everyone read the link first and find out when the next HHS Committee is. We can call a special NLOC meeting if needed to discuss how and what to present to the Board.
- Sarah added that meetings will be bi-monthly and we will try to bring in guest speakers at the end of most meetings, to update us on important topics such as inspections, fire, etc
- The March 27th meeting will be a social at Bar of Chocolate in hopes to attract some new businesses. Spread the word to other businesses and send your proxy if you are unable to attend.

Sarah adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Taffy Eaton, Recorder