

DuPage County Liquor Commissioner Meeting
March 11, 2015

In attendance: Dan Cronin, DuPage County Liquor Commissioner; Paul Hinds, Secretary for the DuPage County Liquor Commissioner; Kathy King – DuPage County Clerk's office; Tony Hayman – State's Attorney's Office; Jim Kruse – DuPage County Sheriff's Office; Jim Stran – Economic Development and Planning; Melvin Kim – County Board office; Kevin Dixon – DuPage County Health Department

In attendance (public): Paul A. Schirmer – Uncle Paulie's; Michael Machay – Cantigny; Cindy Scardina – Green Valley Golf Range; John Badway – John & Tony's; John Dwyer – Rosie O'Reilly's; Richard Kramer – Maple Avenue Pub; Ana DeAnda – Walgreens; Rick Robbins – White Pines Golf Course

The meeting was called to order by Liquor Commissioner Cronin who made the following remarks:

Thank you for taking time to participate in this forum. You are a valuable partner for our local economy and I feel it is important to have an open dialog today regarding the county's liquor ordinance. As Liquor Commissioner, it is my responsibility to approve liquor licenses to the 55 establishments located in unincorporated DuPage County and ensure that the liquor ordinance is upheld. Periodically, I like to take the opportunity and check in with the public to make sure that the rules not only protects the public and conforms to state law, but that it also helps you as a small business owner to remain competitive.

We began meeting together a couple years ago, and I hope you find these meetings as productive as I do. Some of our accomplishments which have resulted from these meetings include:

- Amending Sunday sales to begin at 9 a.m.;
- Consolidating the inspection process;
- Increasing accessibility by offering a downloadable temporary license application on the Liquor Commissioner's webpage.

These changes have all resulted from previous opportunities to dialogue with you, and this is why I continue to host these meetings.

If you all recall, a topic that was discussed in depth at last year's meeting was video gaming. Many of you expressed an interest in having video gaming in your establishments, and I understand that many of you view this more as an issue of remaining competitive with other establishments located in municipalities who allow it.

Before we get to our discussion today, I would like to explain the process of changing the County Code, which is what would need to happen in this case. In order to make any changes to the County Code, the County Board would need to be involved. A majority vote of County

Board members would be required to change it. Therefore, it is important to make sure the 18 members of the County Board hear and know of your interest in allowing video gaming in unincorporated DuPage.

After hearing your concerns last year, I recommended that you share your thoughts with the County Board to amend the County Code. I sent letters out to license holders suggesting that you present your case during public comment at a County Board meeting. Even though very few license holders followed through with this recommendation, I still believe this is the best way you can inform the County Board of your thoughts and needs.

Additionally, I want to remind you of the change to the Proof of Insurance requirement. Instead of requiring a "Certificate of Insurance," the County now requires the Declaration Page from your insurance policy. Therefore, I ask that as you submit your renewal application, please include your insurance policy's Declaration Page.

Before I open the meeting up for public comment on any issues or thoughts you may have, I want to thank the businesses, owners, and organization representatives who are in attendance today. I value your opinion and hope that we can work together to resolve any concerns you may have.

The Liquor Commissioner opened the floor for public comment. The following liquor license holders spoke in favor of allowing video gaming in unincorporated DuPage County:

John Badway of John and Tony's;
Richard Kramer of Maple Avenue Pub
John Dwyer of Rosie O'Reilly's; and
Cindy Scardina of Green Valley Golf Range.

Paul A. Schirmer of Uncle Paulie's read a memo that he sent to the Mr. Cronin detailing the amount of revenue gaming has raised in surrounding counties.

Liquor Commissioner Cronin thanked those in attendance for sharing their thoughts. He stated that if they have any further opinions on the issues pertaining to the liquor ordinance and liquor commissioner, they should please send them to Melvin Kim, who is a member of his staff at the County Board office. He promises to carefully consider all of the information gathered here today.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Hinds
Secretary