



# WINTHROP MASSACHUSETTS

## TOWN OF WINTHROP BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONER MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** Monday – September 9, 2019  
Start Time: 6:58p  
Adjournment Time: 8:25p

### PRESENT

Richard Ackerman  
Nick Bracy  
Matthew Camilleri  
Marc Chapdelaine  
Joe Clark  
Lieutenant Steve Rogers

### PREVIOUS MONTHS MINUTES

June 3, 2019 Minutes: Will review at October meeting.

July 29, 2019 Minute: Will review at October meeting.

### PUBLIC HEARING

**Application:** New Common Victualler License  
**Name:** Aaron Armistead/Grace's Place DBA ShoreSide Café  
**Address:** 530 Shirley Street  
Winthrop Ma 02152  
**Present:** Aaron Armistead, Dawn Armistead  
**Notes:** Proposal to open a breakfast and lunch spot in Winthrop at the old Seaside Liquor Store location. Both Mr. and Mrs. Armistead have had previous experience in the restaurant business. No entertainment needed. See business proposal provided by Mr. Armistead in meeting documents for further information.  
**Public comment:** Betsy Shane from the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce supports more options for restaurants in the area and supports opening this business.  
**Approval:** License approved unanimously

### OLD BUSINESS

**Name:** Kasbah  
**Address:** 59 Putnam Street  
Winthrop Ma, 02152  
**Present:** Jay P. Satin (legal representative) and Abdennaquer (Nasser) Belghiti (owner of Kasbah)

Notes:

Mr. Satin objects moving forward with the Show Cause Hearing based on what he feels as a lack of communication from the town and the board as to why Mr. Belghiti needed to be present. Marc Chapdelaine provided recap and timeline providing reasoning why board asked a representative of the Kasbah to be present. Marc Chapdelaine asked if Mr. Belghiti understood there was no smoking allowed in his establishment based on previous warnings. Mr. Belghiti agreed that he understood. Marc Chapdelaine provided a copy of the WPD incident report dated 6-19-19. Mr. Belghiti admitted to working on the night of the incident and remembered the WPD entering the establishment. Mr. Belghiti also acknowledged that there was smoking that night as the report described. Mr. Satin noted that Mr. Belghiti did not know that smoking was going to take place in his establishment, but instead, the promoter brought the hookah's in without Mr. Belghiti's consent. Mr. Belghiti stated that there was nothing he could have done to prevent the promoter from smoking in his establishment. Mr. Belghiti also stated that the promoter was paid based on the sales of the event including liquor revenue. Marc Chapdelaine informed Mr. Belghiti that this is a clear violation. Mr. Satin expressed that his client never received documentation clearly explaining the reasoning for his attendance at the Board meeting. Marc Chapdelaine read the email directly from Denise that stated reasoning for hearing and his presence. Mr. Belghiti agreed that he received said email.

When asked from the board, Mr. Belghiti was unable to provide information regarding the promoter who worked the event dated 6-19-19. Again, Mr. Belghiti admitted doing nothing about stopping the incident. Marc Chapdelaine stated that it is a clear violation as it relates to the Board of Health. Mr. Belghiti expressed frustration with the lack of support he receives from the town to keep his business open. Mr. Satin stated that he does not believe there has been any liquor related violations in the history of the Kasbah being open. Lieutenant Steve Rogers made it clear that there have been issues in the past and noted the incident in Feb 2019. Joe Clark stated that we have been lenient in the past but ultimately the Kasbah has not complied with what the board asks.

Marc Chapdelaine asked again, what the financial arrangement he had with the promoter on 6-19-19 was - Mr. Belghiti stated that the compensation agreement was a dollar value based on a certain amount of revenue made (different from what he explained earlier).

Mr. Belghiti felt like the communication from Denise Quist showed that he was told to close for a month based on board communication. Jay Satin read the email aloud from Denise Quist that eludes to the fact that he should remain closed. Marc Chapdelaine noted that Mr. Belghiti was to follow-up with Denise Quist to learn that the following Board meeting noted he was able to remain open.

Joe Clark suggested moving this discussion to the October meeting and have all parties think about options that work to keep Mr. Belghiti running a business in Winthrop. Mr. Belghiti stated that he will speak to the Chief of the Winthrop Police Department for ideas/suggestions prior to the October meeting.

*Public comment:*

Stephanie Belghiti asks the board to decide if they want to continue having Kasbah in Winthrop or not. She believes that their family was "blasted" on media. Nick Bracy confirmed that the information that the article referenced through the

*Approval:*

Winthrop Transcript (WT) was incorrect and that he contacted the WT to inform them that the information was incorrect.  
Motion to continue meeting under advisement with any new violations and that the Kasbah is to remain open until the October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with no club activity.  
Approved unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS – Review and Sign New/Renewal Taxi Driver Applicants**

All licenses presented to the board were approved unanimously except John Snider from Columbus Ave #11 who was denied based on previous driving record.

**NOTE** Jeffrey D. Care was not presented at this meeting since his information was not in the folder for review.

### **NEW BUSINESS – Review and Sign Renewal Livery License**

*Name:* Ariful Matubbar DBA Ari's Car Service, LLC  
*Address:* 4 Revere Street  
Winthrop Ma 02152  
*Present:* NA  
*Notes:* Lieutenant Steve Rogers reviewed record  
*Public comment:* NA  
*Approval:* Denied unanimously based on previous driving record.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Notes:* Rules and regulations regarding outdoor seating. Strong suggestion to business's applying for or renewing licenses to provide a safe area for outdoor seating. Board will review on a case-by-case basis.