

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
September 16, 2024**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Bertucci, Dunnington, Grasse, LaBedz, Schwingbeck, and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Shirley

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus; Assistant Village Manager Diana Mikula

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Niesen, Bradley Wilson, Michal Wiski, Jill Geimer, Dave Kunicki, Susan Thomson and Jeff Hyslop

**A. Consideration of recommending to the Liquor Commissioner the issuance of a Class B and T liquor license to 1918 Winter Street Illinois LLC dba Mariano's #501 located at 802 E. Northwest Highway, effective upon the transfer of ownership of Mariano's and upon relinquishment of the current liquor license by the current entity.**

The Mayor swore in Bradley Wilson, Store Director.

Ms. Mikula gave the staff report. This is a change of ownership, keeping the same classifications that are there now, Class B and Class T. Police completed a background check on representatives of Mariano's: Kevin McNamara and Bryan Granger. A background check was also completed on the on-site manager, Bradley Wilson. There were no issues noted. There had been liquor violations at the address in 2014 and 2021.

A walk through was conducted on September 6, 2024 and the submitted floor plan matched what was seen at the establishment.

Upon a satisfactory interview tonight, Ms. Mikula stated, it would be appropriate to issue a Class B and T liquor license to 1918 Winter Street Illinois LLC dba Mariano's #501 located at 802 E. Northwest Highway, effective upon the transfer of ownership of Mariano's and upon relinquishment of the current liquor license by the current entity. Ms. Mikula stated that Jennifer Niesen, Senior Associate with the law firm Christopoulos Dickens which is representing Mariano's stated the closing date is now scheduled for October 13.

Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Wilson questions about his background. He has been at this Mariano's for three months and prior to that at Lake Zurich. Prior to that, he had worked at Walmart stores. Mr. Wilson has had no liquor violations. At this time, there are no plans to change the operation of the liquor processing for Mariano's. He did state that different stores have different requirements, depending on the jurisdiction of the store.

Trustees thanked Mr. Wilson for explaining the liquor purchasing process and how it differs with the codes and towns as well as sharing the information that there won't be many

changes with new ownership. Discussion ensued regarding the checkout process as well as the Basset certification of employees. It was recommended that in-person training seems to be more effective.

**Trustee Grasse moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to recommend that the Village Board of Trustees recommend to the Liquor Commissioner the issuance of a Class B and T liquor license to 1918 Winter Street Illinois LLC dba Mariano's #501 located at 802 E. Northwest Highway, effective upon the transfer of ownership of Mariano's and upon relinquishment of the current liquor license by the current entity.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**B. Interview of Michal Wiski for appointment to the Building Code of Review Board (electrical) – term ending 4/30/27.**

The Mayor introduced Michal Wiski and thanked him for his willingness to serve. The Mayor stated that there was an error on the agenda and the correct title for the board is Building Code of Review Board. The Mayor said that Michal came highly recommended by the former Village Building Director, Jorge Torres.

Michal said he has been an electrician for 8 years and would like to help keep the community safe and help the community go the right direction code wise. Michal started in commercial electrical work and has switched to residential electrical work. Discussion ensued on the importance of electrical codes being followed for safety purposes.

**Trustee La Bedz moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Michal Wiski for appointment to the Building Code of Review Board (electrical), term ending 4/30/27. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**C. Interview of Jill Geimer for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (President), term ending September 16, 2027.**

The Mayor asked all four of the candidates for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board to come forward together. The Mayor stated that this is a very qualified group.

The Board of Directors has increased from 9 to 15 members, 5 of which are Village representatives, with one being president and two out of the five must be residents (3 of the applicants are residents). The Mayor said that many applications were received for these positions and he interviewed 13 individuals.

The Mayor stated that this diverse group has the background, experience and understanding of working with a group as a team and be able to come to a consensus, not forcing one's opinion. They all understand the need to come together to form an outcome that is best for the group.

Jill Geimer lives in Glenview and stated her daughter was Tiny Tim at the Metropolis in 2022. Jill loves the theater and the Metropolis. She has a very strong Human Resources background. She started her career in 1990 at Universal Studios Florida as an HR Assistant for the Director of HR and Entertainment. Rapid response, communications and compliance are all key factors that Jill feels are a part of her background. She feels the theater should be a safe and inclusive spot.

The Trustees thanked all the candidates for their willingness to step forward. Discussion ensued with the candidates in the areas of safety training, diversity and fundraising.

**Trustee Schwingbeck moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Jill Geimer for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (President), term ending September 16, 2027. Trustee Tinaglia seconded the motion.**

Keith Moen asked that the new President consider allowing the public to attend the impact Board Meetings for input at this meeting, wherever these meetings may be.

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**D. Interview of Dave Kunicki for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2027.**

Dave Kunicki brings over 15 years of non-profit leadership in development and fundraising. Dave did Second City and did improv for 7 years. He will be thinking outside of the box and how to elevate and promote Metropolis Theater.

**Trustee Grasse moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Dave Kunicki for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2027. Trustee LaBedz seconded the motion.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**E. Interview of Susan Thomson for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2026.**

Sue Thomson works at a church and she works with many different groups: singers, instrumentalists, tech team and a community art group. Sue was a teaching assistant in District 25 for 25 years. She believes diversity and inclusion are so important and works to be involved and promote things that the Village offers. Sue is heading up a group called

Rainbow Conversation looking at the LGBT community and opening up discussions to be more welcoming.

**Trustee Bertucci moved to concur in the Mayor’s appointment of Susan Thomson for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2026. Trustee Schwingbeck seconded the motion.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**F. Interview of Jeff Hyslop for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2025.**

Jeff Hyslop has a business financial background. He and his wife are big fans of the arts and lived in New York City prior to moving to Arlington Heights. He has a real passion for the community and the Metropolis. Jeff hopes to bring analytic help that carries over from the business world.

**Trustee La Bedz moved to concur in the Mayor’s appointment of Jeff Hyslop for appointment to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors (member), term ending September 16, 2025. Trustee Grasse seconded the motion.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**G. Other Business - none**

**H. Public Comments - none**

**I. ADJOURNMENT** – Trustee Tinaglia moved, seconded by Trustee LaBedz to adjourn.  
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.