

HABERSHAM COUNTY

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www.habershamga.com

To: Board of Commissioners

CC: Alicia Vaughn, County Manager

From: Mike Beecham, Director of Planning and Development MB

Date: March 7, 2024

RE: Revocation of Good Vibes Event Center Co. Business License

117 Walls Complex Circle Clarkesville, GA 30523

Tax Map and Parcel 104 152A

The Planning and Development Department recommends the revocation of a recently issued business license to Good Vibes Event Center Co. located at 117 Walls Complex Circle in Clarkesville. In our opinion, the business has violated local law by allowing alcohol and food to be served which are both outside the allowable limits of their business license. First, I will touch upon the local laws which, in my opinion, are being violated and then I will give examples of why we think these are in violation.

During the application process, Good Vibes was told specifically that alcohol would not be allowed at the business. Habersham County Code ("Code") Section 6-131 states that alcohol can only be served by the drink in a restaurant with a full-service kitchen (Exhibit A). Good Vibes has not received a Food Service Permit from the Environmental Health Department to operate a restaurant. In addition, Code Section 6-3(b)(7) prohibits the sale of alcohol for consumption on premises within 100 yards of a property line containing any church building (Exhibit B). There is a church located within the same shopping center complex as Good Vibes. The separation requirement cannot be met. These regulations were explained during the application process. We had the applicant write on the application that no food or alcohol would be allowed (Exhibit C).

Shortly after issuing the license, I started receiving copies of advertisements put out by Good Vibes (Exhibit D). The advertisements don't specifically state alcohol will be served, but it is implied with the picture of the liquor bottle on the first advertisement in Exhibit D. During this timeframe, I received numerous comments about the facility being used as an adult entertainment business. Given the alcohol in the advertisement along with the message of "All you can drink free" on the first ad in Exhibit D, I sent the applicant, Ms. Chakeithia Burtch, an email outlining the County's

regulations governing alcohol and adult entertainment (Exhibit E). There has been no indication the business has been an adult entertainment business, but I didn't want you to read the email and wonder. I specifically mentioned Code Section 6-140 prohibits "bring your own bottle" (Exhibit F).

Under the authority outlined in Code Section 18-73 (Exhibit G), I ask you to revoke the business license of Good Vibes Event Center Co.

I'll now touch upon the evidence used to reach this decision. First, we have a screenshot of a video showing Ms. Burtch within the business with a bottle of what appears to be El Patron Tequila and a Corona beer on the bar (Exhibit H). I think this shows very clearly alcohol was present at the business. As I mentioned earlier, they have no alcohol license and BYOB is prohibited. In addition, she mentioned @tkkravitz in the comments and he was shown within the same video as music entertainment. Exhibit I shows TK Kravitz was the entertainment on February 17th. The video was posted on February 19th. I think this is conclusive proof the video was taken at Good Vibes and they were serving or allowing alcohol on the premises. Next, we have Exhibit J from Lt. Travis Jarrell of the Habersham County Sheriff's Office stating the gentleman in the last two pictures was seen leaving Good Vibes and was immediately arrested for DUI and open container. Lastly, we've tracked down the website for Good Vibes Event Center and discovered they advertise as having a bar (on page 3 of Exhibit K).

I think this evidence shows clearly alcohol is being consumed on the property. It does not matter if they are selling it or allowing it to be brought in as either is illegal.

However, there is also ample evidence of food service in violation of local law. Habersham County has adopted all rules and regulations of the Georgia Department of Public Health. One of them is the Food Service rules and regulations as shown in Exhibit L. I've consulted with Mr. Marcus Hall of the Habersham County Environmental Health office to confirm no food service permits have been issued to Good Vibes Event Center Co. I specifically asked if an outside vendor would be allowed to sell food and was told it was not allowed without a food service permit. I've attached multiple advertisements pulled from the internet (Exhibit M) regarding Good Vibes which shows food and drink being advertised.

I think these pictures and advertisements, all taken from public social media posts, clearly show alcohol is being served on the property and food is available to purchase. Both are in violation of local laws and is grounds to revoke the Good Vibes Event Center Co. business license in accordance with Code Section 18-73 (Exhibit G).

Please contact me with any further questions or comments.