

Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion Planning Meeting

Approved (on 121525)

MINUTES

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, MD, 21401
May 1, 2025 | 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Atticks, Maryland Department of Agriculture
Mark Burke, Streetcar 82 Brewing
Joan Cartier, Links Bridge Vineyards
Roy Crow, Crow Vineyards
Dr. Joe Fiola, University of Maryland Extension
Gerald Stinnet for L. Gutierrez, Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs
Kimberly Johnson, Philosophy Winery
Jeffrey Kelly, Maryland Alcohol, Tobacco and Cannabis Commission
Max Lents, Baltimore Spirits Co
Jaime Windon, Lyon Rum
The Honorable Craig Zucker, Maryland State Senate (via phone)

Department of Commerce Staff
Lisa Hansen Terhune
Marci Ross

Members of the Public
Janna Howley, Craft & Cultivate

ASL Interpreters - Bridge Language Services

Not in Attendance:

Steve Connelly, designee of Maryland Department of Agriculture
Robert Butz, Windridge Vineyards
Laura Gutierrez, Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs
The Honorable Kris Valderram, Maryland House of Delegates

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jamie Windon opened the meeting reminding everyone that this commission must follow the Open Meetings Act. The meeting information was published on the Department of Commerce website in advance. Minutes will be taken to note attendance and general discussion of the meeting, which ensures the public is aware of what happens during the meeting.

Jamie asked everyone to introduce themselves followed by her thanking Jarrod from Bridge Language Services for their assistance.

I. Commission Updates

Jamie asked if everyone read the minutes from February 20, 2025 meeting. Jeff Kelly requested a correction his organization be corrected to add “Cannabis” to the minutes. It was also determined Max Lents’ name was misspelled and to be corrected. Dr. Joan Cartier made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Burke and all were in favor of accepting the corrected minutes.

Chair Windon asked Janna Howley, Craft & Cultivate to give an update from the recent legislative session, which she provided. Roy Crow shared the 2024 Maryland Vintage Report and gave compliments to Janna and team for putting it together.

Lisa Hansen Terhune shared Governor Moore’s recent press release about two craft beverage grant program awards in 2025 including the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion Fund Round 1 awards.

The Commission discussed the vacancy in the category of Breweries. A communication was requested to ask the Brewers Association of Maryland board to make recommendations for nominees from Western Maryland to fill the vacancy by the next Commission meeting.

III. Application Review

Commerce staff reported \$334,510 available funding remains. Jamie asked if those funds needed to be allocated before the end of the fiscal year and staff said they can be carried over by law but there’s no guarantee that they will be available as budgets have not been confirmed for next year. It was re-stated the commission role is to make recommendations to the secretary for him to approve or not approve the applicants.

Each application was introduced by the Chair. Following brief discussions, a formal motion was requested, presented, seconded and voted on to decide the outcome – to recommend, not recommend or to recommend with condition.

- Maryland Distillers Guild 1 Rye research. A motion was moved by Jaime to recommend approval, Joanne seconded the motion— no abstentions—all were in favor and 0 against to recommend approval.
- Maryland Distillers Guild 2 – Rum/yeast research. A motion was moved by Steve to recommend approval, Kim seconded, Jamie abstained—all were in favor and 0 against to recommend approval.
- Maryland Grape Growers Association – Research and education. A motion was moved by Roy Crow to recommend approval, Jamie seconded, 0 abstained— all were in favor and 0 against to recommend approval.
- Maryland Winery Association – 4 Initiatives. A motion was moved by Jeff Kelly to recommend partial funding 2 initiatives (wine faults seminars and regenerative workshops), Mark seconded the motion for partial funding— all were in favor and 0 against to recommend partial funding approval.
- OHLA Roots and Wines series/education/outreach. A motion was moved by Jamie to recommend approval, Max seconded, Jeff Kelly and Dr. Fiola abstained—all were in favor and 0 against to recommend approval.
- Allegany County Tourism-App. A motion was moved by Jamie to recommend not to approve, Roy seconded it— all were in favor and 0 against to recommend not to approve.
- Boonesboro Town Alliance-events/education/exhibits. A motion was moved by Max to recommend approval for this award, Jeff seconded, Kim abstained— all were in favor and 0 against to recommend approval.
- Brewer’s Association-Planning consultant. A motion was moved by Jamie to recommend approval, Max seconded, Kim opposed, no abstentions and the motion was passed to recommend approval.

- Conf and Visitor Bureau of Montgomery Co-rural branding/marketing. A motion was moved by Roy to not recommend, Joe seconded, no abstentions—all were in favor to not recommend for approval.

Next Steps

Commission recommendations and Application summaries will be forwarded to the Secretary Coker, Department of Commerce for final approval of the FY25 Round 2 awards. Following that, applicants will be notified by email.

Lisa summarized a proposed timeline for FY26 application round and subsequent meetings. It was requested the application form to be revised and a work group will convene virtually to provide feedback before finalizing.

IV. Adjourn

Adjournment was called at 5:00 pm.