

Staff Report

Devens
Enterprise
Commission

Date: October 24, 2019

To: **Devens Enterprise Commission**

From: Neil Angus, Environmental Planner

RE: **Clear Path for Veterans Devens Dash 5K Road Race (1-Day Beer/Malt Beverages License)**

Applicant/Owner: Clear Path for Veterans New England

Location: 84 Antietam Street, Devens, MA

Zoning: Innovation and Technology Center and Zone II Water Res. Protection Overlay.

Event Overview:

Clear Path for Veterans New England is planning to host their first “Devens Dash” 5k run/walk road race. The event will take place on Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. The event is being co-hosted with the US Army and will be chaired by LTC Lindsey E. Halter – Commander of the Devens Reserve Forces Training Area. Clear Path is proposing to host a single food vendor for this daytime event. There will be amplified music however, as this is a short daytime event with a relatively small number of people and in an area not directly adjacent to any residences, there is minimal concern for any nuisance conditions for existing residents and businesses. The Devens Event Permit Regulations allow for business/property owners on Devens to host one-day events on their own property without the need for an event permit but because this event is proposing to serve beer, they are requesting a one-day on-premises license from the DEC to serve beer.

Course Layout:

The course will utilize Devens public streets (sidewalks) and will start and finish at Clear Path for Veterans New England – 84 Antietam Street. Clear Path is working with True North Running to organize this run. The course will be managed and marked with non-permanent signage, arrows and cones. Police detail coverage will be requested to avoid the need for any road closures. The Applicant will need to coordinate with the Devens Public Safety Officer and State Police, as well as Devens Recreation and DPW for traffic control and to provide proper notice to residents in the affected neighborhoods.

Parking:

Clear Path is expecting around 80 participants. Attendees will be able to park on-site at 84



Antietam and in the adjacent municipal lot to the south. Runners/walkers will register/check-in at 84 Antietam Street.

One Day Beer and/or Malt Beverages License Details:

This one-day license request is for beer consumption on Saturday June 12, 2021 from 11:30AM to 3:00 PM only. Clear Path will be collaborating with Columbia Tavern who uses United Beverage to obtain their alcohol (ABCC authorized source). The area where beer is to be served will be within a 75'x 50' fenced off area. Entrance into the area will be restricted to persons 21 years of age or older. ID's will be checked to enter the fenced in area (wristbands will be issued to over 21). Bartenders will be TIPS certified and will ID individuals being served regardless of wristband status. Patrons will not be allowed to take alcohol outside the fenced in area. The applicant has spoken with the State Police and will secure a detail officer to be inside the fenced area at all times when alcohol is being served as required by the license. In addition, Clear Path will have an EMT and private security personnel that will monitor inside and outside the fenced area.



Food and Waste Management/Control:

No food vendors are proposed at this time. Clear Path will be serving food from their own facilities which are licensed through the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health. The Applicant will utilize volunteers to manage all waste and recycling on-site. Clear Path will allow access inside their building for restrooms. A Volunteer crew will be assigned to monitor cleanup in public areas along the route, during and post event. This should include animal waste pick-up as this will be a dog-friendly event (although not a lot of animals expected).

COVID-19 Safety Plan:

In order to comply with the current COVID-19 safety guidelines, the Applicant will require face masks to be worn at the start and finish of the event, stagger start times to reduce crowding, have hand sanitizer on-site and signage reminding people of the need to continue to mask when not able to socially distance. A full COVID-19 Safety Plan for the race has been prepared to comply with current guidelines in effect at the time of Application (see attached). For Mask will be required at all times when people are in the alcohol service area. Attendees can only remove masks when eating or drinking. Attendees drinking need to be seated and tables will be spaced a minimum of 6' apart. The maximum number of people at each table will be 6 and attendees are limited to 90 minutes.

Recommended Action:

Legal notice was published and all abutters were notified by certified mail. No comments were received. If the Commission is satisfied that all concerns have been addressed, Staff would recommend approval of the One Day Beer and/or Malt Beverages License, subject to the following conditions:

1. The 1-Day Beer and/or Malt Beverages License is valid on Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM only.

2. The serving and consumption of alcohol is limited to the ~50'x 75' existing fenced in area at 84 Antietam Street as shown on the event layout plan. A police officer shall be inside the fenced area at all times while alcohol is being served/consumed.
3. The Applicant is an individual, as the responsible manager for the organization and shall control the dispensing of alcohol to persons not under the age of twenty-one (21), and shall not serve alcohol to individuals who are or "appear to be" under the influence of alcohol.
4. The Licensee must purchase alcoholic beverages from an authorized source. Licensees CANNOT purchase from a package store and CANNOT accept donations from anyone.
5. All waste must be contained on-site and properly disposed of. Recycling is mandatory.

In order to ensure the event complies with 974 CMR 8.00 (Public Health and Safety) Regulations, Staff would recommend the following conditions be added to this license:

6. All food vendors shall be licensed through the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health.
7. The Applicant shall obtain tent permits for any tents larger than 10'x 12' being used for the event. Electrical Permits for any emergency generators are also required.
8. The Applicant shall coordinate all off-site road race traffic and safety within Devens with MassDevelopment, the State Police, Devens Dog Warden, and the Devens Public Safety Officer and provide a cleanup crew for public areas along the route, during and post event. This includes animal waste pick-up.

Attachments: COVID-19 Safety Plan

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN: 2021 Devens Dash (June 12th, 2021)



To Whom It May Concern:

As we prepare for the return to racing, we fully recognize that our sport is a source of health and fitness for many people in our community. It is our intent to do everything in our power to host a safe and responsible event in the midst of the current COVID-19 crisis, to allow people to return to our sport in the safest way possible.

As we prepare to host the 2021 Devens Dash Road Race in Devens, Massachusetts, we are putting forth the following precautions to invest in the safety of our participants, our race staff, and the greater community.

Please note this is an evolving plan, and we reserve the right to make changes or adjustments based on new information as it becomes available, especially when it comes to best practices, state mandates, and the ever-changing information as of the current state of COVID-19 in our community.

As of 5/5/2021, our adjustments to this year's race will include:

- We plan to keep an appropriate cap on the size of this event, in line with projected Massachusetts guidance on outdoor gatherings come June. At the moment that this plan is written, we anticipate roughly 80 participants in the race.
- Depending on the MA COVID-19 event protocol at the time, if needed, instead of a normal “crowded approach” to the starting line, we will be pre-communicating wave assignments to runners. These waves will be called to the starting line separately, and lined up, socially distanced. Waves will continue to be called forward, starting the race 10 at a time. Beginning in the front and ending in the back, so that people are pre-separated by their running pace. This will accomplish two main goals; (1) This will force groups to be contained into certain pre-determined footprints, avoiding “crowding” at the starting line and (2) this will minimize “passing” on the course, since faster runners will be in front, slower runners will be in back, and on-course “catching up” will be nearly impossible due to the spread-out start. When the “mass start” happens, runners will already be spread out, with masks on, and only allowed to remove masks they have entered the course, or in other words, have passed the starting mat, will some more separation will have already taken place.
- Masks will be mandatory at the race start and finish line, including at the race bathrooms and check-in. Masks must be worn in the “starting chute”, and may be taken off on-course once you’ve separated from the starting crowd. Masks must be kept on-person during the entire race, in the event that you cannot pass another runner without maintaining 6-feet of separation.
- Signs reminding athletes to wear masks and socially distance themselves will be posted. Athletes will be warned in pre-race communications that refusal to wear masks and socially distance will be cause for disqualification from the race. State-provided signs will also be posted asking people not to enter if they are showing symptoms of COVID.
- Plastic sheeting will separate race staff from arriving runners at race check in. Shirts and runner bibs will be passed under this plastic sheeting.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at the bathrooms and at the race check-in station, as well as throughout the post-race festivity area.
- We will eliminate much of our normal on-course volunteer crew to minimize person to person contact. In other words, aid stations will be self-service with sealed bottles for each runners, as opposed to a volunteer handing out cups, as would be customary. Turns will be marked with clear course markings instead of a volunteer, if possible.

- Finish line “fanfare” will be spread out. Instead of corralling the crowd into a festival area, we’ll spread them out. A runner’s experience will be to finish, immediately mask-up, go and retrieve their beverage and/or snack, and spread out with their party to find a socially distanced place in the field to enjoy their post-race food, drink and music. We’ll communicate the post-race conversations with friends and family need to happen away from the finish line, so that the finish-line can be reserved for finishing athletes and race crew only.
- All race staff will be masked at all times, and any staff in close contact will be behind plastic sheeting.
- Que lines for check-in will be socially distanced, with marks on the ground for the line to form with 6 feet or more of separation.
- Bathroom doors/handles will be cleaned at least every 15 minutes during peak usage, as we see this as our only major hi-touch surface.
- Runners and race crew will be informed of the “sick policy”, that no one can attend in the event of any symptoms, i.e. fever or chills, muscle or body aches, sore throat or runny/stuffy nose, headache, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, fatigue, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty, sudden loss of smell or taste.
- The aforementioned safety procedures will be communicated out to race staff and vendors prior to the race itself, and all participant (runner) related issues will be communicated out in pre-race communications.

I am open to any and all suggestions that can help keep our participants safe, while still giving them an outlet to engage in their sport. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you feel as if there is something we can do better.

Sincerely,

Jason Paganelli

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