



## PUBLIC INFORMATION

ITEM NO. 19.

**DATE OF MEETING:** April 16, 2012

**REQUESTED BY:** Kyle M. Breuer, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development

**SHORT TITLE:** Discussion Regarding Sweepstakes Centers

**BACKGROUND:** On April 3, 2012, the Planning Board addressed the Board of Commissioners request to evaluate development standards for Sweepstakes Centers within the County.

The Planning Board evaluated six (6) separate areas of development standards that are common amongst other North Carolina jurisdictions, which were: 1) distance separation from defined public places; 2) maximum number of machines on-site; 3) hours of operation; 4) alcohol sales and consumption; 5) food and beverage service; and 6) incorporating an annual review of zoning/building/fire compliance.

The Planning Board recognized the importance of separating Sweepstakes Centers from places of worship, existing alcohol related establishments, and schools. The Board indicated that setting a maximum number of machines within an establishment should be left up to the occupancy rating provided by the Fire Marshal. The Board felt that the hours of operation should be consistent with previously approved Special Use Permits. The sales and consumption of alcohol are regulated by the Alcohol and Beverage Commission and felt that they were the appropriate agency for enforcement. Food and beverage sales shall be regulated by Environmental Health.

The Planning Board indicated that shall the Board of Commissioners consider the aforementioned development standards, the necessity of obtaining a Special Use Permit may not be necessary. This will give an applicant a distinct list of items to abide by prior to development.