## Allowing Alcoholic Beverages to be Purchased in Franklin Township

Dear Residents:

Franklin Township is DRY! We know that this may be hard to believe, but Franklin Township has been dry since the end of Prohibition. In 1933 and in a reaffirmation in 1967, Franklin Township voted to remain a Dry Township, prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages at any restaurant or retail outlet located in the Township. The current Township prohibition does not include locally produced wine or beer sold at breweries and wineries that may be located in the Township. These establishments are agricultural and thus are not affected by the prohibition because they grow the ingredients needed to produce the alcoholic beverages they sell.

Why change now? The Board of Supervisors supports changing the Township's dry status in order to foster economic development in the Township. The Board would like to see our community continue to flourish through the growth of small businesses such as restaurants and shops. Improving our tax base is also an objective. This is one small way to generate additional income for the Township without the challenges associated with large scale development, such as the building of big commercial establishments.

How many liquor licenses can be anticipated? If the limitation on the sale of alcoholic beverages was removed, only 1 liquor license would be permitted "by right". The Board of Supervisors would have direct control over any additional licenses, assuring local control of the number of establishments that could be located in the Township.

What needs to be done? Removal of the Township's dry status requires approval by a majority of the Township's registered voters via a voter referendum. A petition with at least 558 signatures from registered voters in the Township will need to be submitted to Chester County Voter Services in order to place the referendum on the May 2019 ballot, at which point a majority of votes in favor of the referendum will change the status. The signatures for the petition must be collected between February 19<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>.

**How can you help?** If you support this change, we need your help to canvass your neighborhood for signatures between February 19<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to sign up to help, please contact Township staff at 610-255-5212. We will provide the paperwork for the signatures and train you on what constitutes a "proper signature". Please visit <a href="www.franklintownship.us">www.franklintownship.us</a> for additional information.

Sincerely,

Franklin Township-Board of Supervisors:

John Auerbach

Donna Dea

Nancy Morris

David Snyder

Steffer Torres