

**MINUTES
BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION**

September 6, 1988

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the West Hollywood Business License Commission held on the above date in the City Council Chambers of West Hollywood City Hall, 8615 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA, was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Commission Chair Rachelle Sommers Smith.

A. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rachelle Sommers Smith.

B. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Ellis, Forbes, Hirsch,
Smith, Stribling

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Dina Tasini, Associate
Planner; Paul Self,
Business License Officer;
Joe Crow, Administrative
Staff Assistant; Deputy
Early Lincoln, Los Angeles
County Sheriff's Licensing
Detail

C. Approval of Agenda

Action: To approve agenda as prepared by staff.

(Motion: Hirsch, Second: Ellis)
Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes

Action: To approve the minutes of the meeting of
August 16, 1988, with the following
correction:

In Item V change Stribling to Smith.

(Motion: Stribling, Second: Hirsch)
Motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS: None

III. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. BLC-88-004
David Curtin and Alex Henig
dba The Speakeasy
8531 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood
Application for Renewal of Entertainment w/Dance
and Annual Dance licenses

Staff report presented by Self and Deputy Lincoln.

APPLICANT TESTIMONY:

Sheldon Sloan, Legal Representative for licensee.

TESTIMONY AGAINST:

Joyce Heftel, West Hollywood, spoke on behalf of herself and the following members of the West Knoll Triangle Residents Association:

Haydee Bandek, West Hollywood
Marcia Dinkin, West Hollywood
Alex Hassizev, West Hollywood
Richard Hotchkiss, West Hollywood
Adela Jecas, West Hollywood
Sarah Kattus, West Hollywood
Edith Lane, West Hollywood
Jean Mathison, West Hollywood
Irene Oppenheim, West Hollywood
Paul Oppenheim, West Hollywood
John Ostheimer, West Hollywood
Shirley Ostheimer, West Hollywood
John Pace, West Hollywood
Mark Pae, West Hollywood
J. K. Smith, West Hollywood

-- Meeting recessed at 7:40 p.m. --

-- Meeting reconvened at 7:54 p.m. --

Dell Ross, West Hollywood, spoke on behalf of herself and Christine Lazar, West Hollywood

Robert Torres, Los Angeles
Nick Rogart, West Hollywood
John Benedek, West Hollywood
Rae Mitchell, West Hollywood

TESTIMONY FOR:

Michael Radcliffe, West Hollywood
Bonnie Levin, West Hollywood
Michael Johnson, Los Angeles
Leon Lewis, Los Angeles
Donn Viscarra, West Hollywood
Kenneth Warrior, Los Angeles
Carmen Hawkins, Hollywood
Pauline Powell, Beverly Hills
Richard Brooks, Hollywood
Earl Jordan, Compton
Carl Cook, Los Angeles

Action: To close public hearing.

(Motion: Hirsch, Second: Stribling)

Ellis: Yes
Forbes: Yes
Hirsch: Yes
Smith: Yes
Stribling: Yes

Motion carried unanimously.

Action: To approve the renewal of the license with the following conditions:

- 1) The West Knoll exit would be used for emergency use only.
- 2) A licensed security guard would be posted outside the West Knoll exit to prohibit patrons from entering and exiting unless for emergency use.
- 3) No trash pickup before 7 a.m. during the hours of operation.
- 4) A licensed security guard would be posted at the Santa Monica Boulevard entrance and exit.
- 5) Valet pickup on Santa Monica Boulevard
- 6) Six-month administrative review

(Motion: Hirsch, Second: Smith)

Motion amended by Smith to include the following conditions:

- 1) The licensee must receive recommendations of approval of the license renewal from all responsible agencies.

2) The licensee must continue to abide by all previous conditions set forth on the licensee's Entertainment and Dance licenses with the exception of Condition #1 and #6 which shall be modified to read:

"1. That the license show the occupancy load of 202 as established by the Building and Safety Division and the Fire Department."

"6. That the requirement of a dressing room be waived as long as entertainment shall consist of instrumental music and singing, or "stand-up" comedy routines only."

3) The licensee shall prohibit patrons from reentering the business establishment without first paying the required cover charge, pursuant to Section 7.30.490 of the City's Business License Ordinance.

4) The licensee shall post a sign at both the rear exit and Santa Monica Boulevard exit of the business establishment informing patrons that they must exit through the Santa Monica Boulevard exit after 1:00 a.m. during operating hours.

Ellis:	No
Forbes:	No
Hirsch:	Yes
Smith:	Yes
Stribling:	No

Motion failed.

Action: To approve the renewal of the license with the following conditions:

- 1) The license would be approved for a period of six months.
- 2) The rear door entrance would be closed at midnight so that exiting and entering would only be allowed through the front entrance.
- 3) Two licensed uniformed security guards would patrol the outside area until 3:00 a.m. on weekdays and 3:30 a.m. on weekends.
- 4) Valet parking would be provided for Santa Monica Boulevard pickup only.

- 5) Trash pickup would be after 7:00 a.m.
- 6) There would be no in/out privileges.
- 7) The occupancy load would be changed to comply with the new fire regulations.
- 8) The requirement of a dressing room would be waived as long as entertainment shall consist of instrumental music and singing, or "stand-up" comedy routines only.

(Motion: Stribling, Second: Ellis)

Action: To table motion.

(Motion: Ellis, Second: Smith)

Ellis: Yes
Forbes: Yes
Hirsch: Yes
Smith: Yes
Stribling: No

Motion carried.

Action: To reconsider the motion to table.

(Motion: Hirsch, Second: Forbes)

Ellis: Yes
Forbes: Yes
Hirsch: Yes
Smith: Yes
Stribling: Yes

Motion carried.

Action: To table motion to the first regularly scheduled meeting in October.

(Motion: Forbes, Second: Ellis)
Motion carried unanimously.

B. BLC-88-008
JVL Books, Inc.
dba Venus Picture Arcade
7768 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood
Application for Picture Arcade-Adult license

Staff report presented by Self.

Action: To deny the renewal of a Picture Arcade-Adult license to JVL Books, Inc. dba Venus Picture Arcade.

(Motion: Stribling, Second: Ellis)
Motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT

- 1) Commissioner Sommers Smith requested an update on Peanuts Disco (criminal hearing) held at the Beverly Hills Court.
- 2) Commissioner Sommers Smith requested that staff update the Commission on Cavendish West and Peanuts Disco (ABC hearing) at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 3) Commissioner Sommers Smith informed the Commission that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission will be held on a religious holiday. The Commission then acted to hold their next meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 1988 at 7:00 p.m.

V. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- 1) Commissioner Ellis inquired as to whether the Commission should plan a site visit at the Speakeasy. Commission will meet at the Speakeasy on Tuesday, October 4, 1988 at 6:30 p.m.
- 2) Commissioner Hirsch requested that staff not submit illegible material in the Commission packet.
- 3) Commissioner Hirsch requested a study session or an agenda item on the issue of "occupancy load." Staff will present a report on "occupancy load" at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 4) Commissioner Forbes requested that staff update the Commission on Palette at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 5) Commissioner Forbes inquired as to why the Pacific Design Center is able to hold public events on their property without requiring special permits.
- 6) Commissioner Sommers Smith instructed staff to open and photocopy all letters addressed to her so they can be handed to the Commission before the meeting.

- 7) Commissioner Forbes inquired whether the Ramada Hotel will have a public facility room.

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF: None

VII. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS: None

VIII ADJOURNMENT

Action: To adjourn to the regular meeting of the Commission on September 20, 1988, 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

(Motion: Hirsch, Second: Ellis)
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 p.m.



COMMISSION CHAIR



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION