MINUTES BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION

January 15, 1991

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the West Holywood Business License Commission held on the above date in the City Council Chambers in the Werle Building, 626 N. Robertson Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA, was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by Commission Chair Carole Ellis.

A. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bruce Stinshoff.

B. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Sonnenburg, Elliott,

Ellis, Forbes, Maggio

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Anne Browning, Manager

Jennifer Davis, Planner Corey Roskin, Code

Enforcement Officer; Derek Widdiss, Staff

Assistant

C. Approval of Agenda:

Action: To approve agenda as prepared by

staff.

(Motion: Ellis Second: Sonnenburg)

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutues:

Action: To approve the minutes of December 4,

1990.

(Motion: Ellis Second: Sonnenburg)

Motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:

Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood - spoke regarding information being brought before the Commission at the last minute. Stated that she will go before Council to mandate that all information brought before Commission be admitted in a more timely manner and included in the public packet information.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR - None.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

A. BLC 90-009
Fleetwood's L.A. Blues
dba Fleetwood's
8290 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Application for a Dance Business License.

Updated staff report given by Corey Roskin.

Recommendation:

To approve Dance Business License BLC 90-009 subject to conditions in Resolution No. 700.

Public Comments:

Mark Lehman, W. Hollywood- spoke as representative of the applicant. Admitted new information for Commissioners (re: ownership, management arrangements, etc.). Requested that the Commissioners approve Dance license for Fleetwood's.

Jane La Rue, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Troy Ellison, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Frank Davenport, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Michael Wright, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Kelly Mitchell, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Darlene Mitchell, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Paul Herbert, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Brandon Yagoyan, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Sheila McDuffy, W. Hollywood - spoke in favor of Fleetwood's.

Florence Delberian, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

Tom Lawrence, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

Dean Dozer, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

Rochelle Sommers-Smith, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

Jeanne Dobrin, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

David Behr, W. Hollywood - spoke against granting Dance license to Fleetwood's.

Commission Comments:

Chairperson Ellis asks questions of applicant's representative.

Other Commissioners gave additional comments and asked more questions of the applicant's representative.

Applicant (Mr. Lepore) and applicant's representative (Mr. Lehman) gave information to Commissioners regarding valet parking, security, various operations of business on-site, etc.

After exhaustive discussion by the Commission, Staff and Applicant (and his representative) there was a motion made by Commissioner Sonnenburg to approve the Dance license with the conditions imposed by Resolution No. 700.

Motion to approve: Motion: Sonnenburg Second: Elliott

Ayes: Commissioners Sonnenburg, Forbes

and Elliott

No's: Commissioner Maggio and

Chairperson Ellis

Motion passes (M/S/P)

Applicant (Mr. Lepore) indicates that Commissioner Forbes should not have voted on Dance License and should not be sitting on the Business License Commission because of Commissioner Forbes' ownership of a nightclub in the City of West Hollywood.

Commissioner Forbes requests a recall vote in order to resolve any possible conflict of interest issues brought up by Mr. Lepore.

A motion is made by Chairperson Ellis to reconsider the vote. The motion to reconsider the vote is supported by all of the Commissioners.

Staff and Commissioners discuss what possible alternatives are available to them in regards to forming a new motion or an alternative motion for consideration.

Commissioner Sonnenburg makes a motion to form a "Committee of the Whole" and give the applicant (Mr. Lepore) 7 minutes to respond to Commissioner Forbes' request for possible reconsideration of his abstension.

Motion is approved in a 4-1 vote by the Commissioners.

Commissioners hear from applicant (Mr. Lepore) who states that his "conflict of interest" statement was made in the "heat of passion" and makes a full retraction of his statements to the Commission.

Committee-of-the-whole is adjourned by the Commissioners.

Commissioner Sonnenburg requests another vote be taken on her original motion to approve. Commissioner Elliott seconds the motion and a new vote is taken.

Motion to approve: Ayes: Commissioners Sonnenburg,

Elliott & Forbes

No's: Commisioner Maggio and

Chairperson Ellis

Motion to approve Dance license carries in a majority vote of the Commission.

V. OTHER BUSINESS - None.

V. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT

Chairperson Ellis asks that information given to the Commission by applicants be admitted in a more timely manner. Mentioned the upcoming meeting with Peanuts Nightclub and the importance of having all pertinent information for the "accusatory" hearing. Asks about scheduling a Study Session for the end of January.

Anne Browning asks Commission to consider a study session prior to upcoming BLC meeting (February 5th).

Commissions discuss various schedules for setting up of a Study Session meeting. Meeting is set up for February 26th at 6pm at City Hall. Commissioners asked staff to recommend that Councilmembers attend meeting if possible.

Commission and staff discuss upcoming seminars that could be of interest to various Commissioners.

VI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Maggio comments on the importance of keeping the meetings in order and not allowing applicants to make comments directly to the Commission

when the public hearing is closed.

Commissioner Sonnenburg commended Commissioner Forbes on his professional conduct and self-control in relation to his response to Mr. Lepore's "conflict of interest" statements made earlier in the meeting.

Commissioner Elliott reports to the BLC on his attendance at the City Council meetings. Indicates that most issues are not directly related or have a direct impact on the BLC. However, he states that he will give a report to Commissioners on the upcoming draft of the amended Zoning Ordinance to be approved by the City Council (possibly in February/March 1991).

Commissioner Sonnenburg asks staff to remind BLC about upcoming business license reviews.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Anne Browning indicates that staff will keep the BLC aprised of any upcoming reviews. She also indicates to BLC that budget reviews are currently taking place and staff time is being alloted according to the workload being placed on it by a number of different projects currently being developed and implemented.

VIII ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood - asks that all information being brought before Commissions for public hearings be put into the public packet. She also encourages continued citizen participation at all meetings.

Rochell Sommers-Smith, West Hollywood - congratulates Commissioners for a job well done. Directs comments to staff (Anne Browning) regarding the receiving of department approvals (i.e. Sheriff's, Building & Safety, etc.) and including these in public packet documents. Spoke regarding the reviews that should be maintained in relation to Entertainment business licenses (i.e. hearings).

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Ellis adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on February 5, 1991, to be held in the Werle Building at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

COMMISSION CHAIR

STAFF LIAISON TO THE COMMISSION