

# CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 6, 2001  
West Hollywood Park Auditorium  
647 No. San Vicente Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA

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I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sonnenburg called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

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A. ROLL CALL:  
PRESENT:

Commissioners – Maxine Sonnenburg, Eric Thompson, Stanley Stalford and James Kazakos.

STAFF PRESENT:

Wade Davenport, Code Compliance Manager;  
Jeff Aubel, Code Compliance Officer; Bruce Robertson, Administrative Staff Asst.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Stalford.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**Action: To hear item IX (Old Business) immediately following item III (Items From Citizens) on the agenda in order to allow those in the audience to hear this item of interest (item IX B), and to approve the agenda as amended.**

This item was approved by a consensus of the commissioners present.

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II. CONSENT CALENDAR

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A. Approval of Minutes for 23 October 2001.

**Action: To amend the minutes as directed by Chair Sonnenburg and to approve the minutes as amended.**

Motion: Thompson  
Votes: All Ayes

Second: Kazakos  
Motion carried.

B. Oath of Office for New Commission Members

Code Compliance Manager Wade Davenport announced, to the Commission, that the swearing in of recently appointed commissioners would take place at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and continued that the empty commission seats would be filled by Terry Morgan, a direct council appointment made by Councilmember Martin, Sibyl Zaden and Alexander Ponder the two at large appointments made by the Council.

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III. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

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- A. Hillary Selvin, Executive Director, West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, reminded the Commission that citations issued to businesses are not always outright violations but are sometimes honest mistakes made by the business and asked the Commission to keep citations in perspective when reviewing a businesses activities. Ms. Selvin continued that citations should be used to educate businesses and as a tool to gain compliance and should not be used punitively and suggested that Code Compliance and businesses should work together in attaining this goal. She also offered assistance from the Chamber in working with businesses and the City to achieve compliance or compromise when needed.

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IV. OLD BUSINESS

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- A. Six (6) month review of Resolution BL2001-02, conditions of approval for The Trocadero Restaurant located at 8280 Sunset Boulevard.

Officer Jeffrey Aubel presented the staff report.

- Stated that to date no additional noise violations have been reported since the August 7<sup>th</sup>, three month review of The Trocadero.
- The seating plan approved under MCUP 95-01 is still in violation and has been returned twice because it was incomplete.

Officer Aubel concluded that Staff is recommending that a pubic hearing be agendized for the December 11<sup>th</sup> Business License Commission meeting to modify, suspend or revoke business licenses for The Trocadero, or if the application is complete at that time, conditions placed on the restaurant could be removed.

**Action: To move the staff report.**

Motion: Stalford  
Votes: All Ayes

Second: Kazakos  
Motion carried.

- B. Adoption and approval of Business License Commission Resolution #2001-04 for Club 7969 located at 7969 Santa Monica Boulevard.

Mr. Davenport directed the Commission to a late correspondence, given to each of the commissioners, received from Mark Lehman, representative for Club 7969.

Chair Sonnenburg asked Mr. Lehman if he would like to speak. He declined stating that his comments were contained in the letter he sent and noted that he was present to answer any questions that the Commission might have.

**Action: To adopt Resolution BL2001-04.**

Motion: Stalford  
Votes: All Ayes

Second: Kazakos  
Motion carried.

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V. PUBLIC HEARING - None

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VI. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT

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Chair Sonnenburg reported that she has attended several meetings of the Sunset Boulevard task force which is currently discussing the definitional differences between a restaurant and a nightclub. Chair Sonnenburg stated that the discussions are ongoing and that she would keep the Commission updated as information becomes available.

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VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

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**Thompson** asked Staff if copies of the business license ordinance are given to persons receiving new regulated business licenses?

Staff responded that the entire ordinance is not given but that staff regularly sits down with new business operators and gives them the necessary information relating to the City's requirements of each business type.

**Sonnenburg** inquired if giving copies of applicable sections of the code to all new business licensees would be too onerous?

Staff suggested that meeting with new licensees has been more effective with the present code but that the newly proposed code will better lend itself to giving information about specific business types to new applicants and licensees.

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VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

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- A. Schedule planning of the Business License Commission's meeting calendar for the year 2002.

Mr. Davenport announced that the regular meetings of the Business License Commission would be held at West Hollywood Park Auditorium commencing at 6:00 P.M. The following is a schedule of meeting dates for the year 2002 presented by staff to the Commission:

December 11, 2001 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)  
January 8, 2002 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)  
February 5, 2002  
March 5, 2002  
April 2, 2002  
May 7, 2002  
June 4, 2002  
July 2, 2002  
August 6, 2002  
September 10, 2002 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)  
October 1, 2002  
November 5, 2002  
December 3, 2002

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IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

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- A. Dan Silver, West Hollywood, commented that The Trocadero continues to operate as a bar as they are closed for breakfast and lunch. Although they do serve dinner the business does not become it's busiest until about Midnight.

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XI. ADJOURNMENT

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**Action:** To adjourn to a regular meeting of the Business License Commission to be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2001, from 6:00 p.m. until completion at West Hollywood Park Auditorium, 647 North San Vicente Boulevard.

Motion: Thompson  
Votes: All Ayes

Second: Kazokos  
Motion carried.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_.

CHAIRPERSON:  \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
BUSINESS LICENSE OFFICER:  \_\_\_\_\_