

**MINUTES
BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION**

August 21, 1990

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the West Hollywood 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 7:14 p.m. by Commission Chair Carole Ellis.

A. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Lehman.

B. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Elliott, Ellis, Maggio.

Commissioners Absent: Forbes, Sonnenberg.

Staff Present: Anne Browning, Planning Manager; Bill Meeker, Associate Planner; Corey Roskin, Code Enforcement Officer; Ralph Winter, Code Enforcement Officer; Craig Rhea, Staff Assistant II; Efrat Cogan, City Attorney.

C. Approval of Agenda

Action: To approve agenda as prepared by staff.

(Motion: Elliott, Second: Maggio)
Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes

Action: To approve the minutes of July 3, 1990, as prepared by staff.

(Motion: Elliott, Second: Maggio)
Motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:

Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood, asked that the Commission direct staff to type the names under the signatures of all officials who sign reports included in the Business License Commission packets.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Adoption of Resolution BL 90-05 denying the Dance Business License for 9229 Sunset Restaurant Corporation, dba Bar One, 9229 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA.

Action: To adopt Resolution BL 90-05 denying the Dance Business License for 9229 Sunset Restaurant Corporation, dba Bar One, 9229 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA.

(Motion: Elliott, Second: Maggio)
Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Adoption of Resolution BL 90-08 upholding and partially modifying the Business License conditions applicable to Circus of Books based upon the Business License Commission's six month review of that License.

Action: To adopt Resolution BL 90-08 upholding and partially modifying the Business License conditions applicable to Circus of Books based upon the Business License Commission's six month review of that License.

(Motion: Maggio, Second: Elliott)
Motion carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commission Chair Carole Ellis presented former Business License Commissioner Rachelle Sommers Smith with a plaque in recognition of her outstanding service to the City of West Hollywood.

- A. SIX-MONTH REVIEW - Dance License - J. Sloan's, 8623 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood.

Staff report presented by Ralph Winter.

Public Testimony:

G. Bruce Traub, West Hollywood
Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood
Rand Ferris, Santa Monica

Action: To receive and file the staff report on the six-month review for the Dance License at J. Sloan's, 8623 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood.

(Motion: Maggio, Second: Elliott)
Motion carried unanimously.

- B. SIX-MONTH REVIEW - Entertainment with Dance and Dance Licenses - Roxbury (formerly Imperial Gardens), 8225 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA.

Staff report presented by Corey Roskin.

Public Testimony:

Stan Perkins, Los Angeles County Fire Inspector
Phil Cocker, Los Angeles County Fire Inspector
Mark Lehman, West Hollywood (For Roxbury)
John Altschul, West Hollywood (Other)
Steven Mark, West Hollywood (For)
Annee Parsons, West Hollywood (For)
Glenn Spiro, Hollywood Hills (For)
Gerda Spiegler, West Hollywood (Against)
Eric James, West Hollywood (For)
Richard Sarafian, West Hollywood (For)
Paris Vaughan, West Hollywood (For)
Kimber Sissons, Los Angeles (For)
Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood (Other)
Captain William Hood, L.A. County Fire Department
Elie Samaha, West Hollywood (For Roxbury)

Action: To receive and file the staff report for the six-month review of the Entertainment with Dance and Dance Licenses for Roxbury, 8225 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA.

(Motion: Elliott, Second: Maggio)
Motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT:

- 1) Commissioner Ellis raised the question about the alleged S & M activities at the Christopher Street West festivities last June. Corey Roskin reported that Christopher Street West officials were aware of the situation and that it had been discussed at a meeting between CSW, the Sheriff's Department, and other officials.
- 2) Commissioner Ellis asked about items on upcoming Business License Commission agendas. Bill Meeker noted that at this point there are no public

hearings or case items scheduled for the next meeting on September 18, 1990.

- 3) Commissioner Ellis noted that the reports from the various agencies should be included in the Commissioners' packets.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

- 1) Commissioner Elliott asked about the type of ABC license held by Barney's Beanery. Bill Meeker reported that staff was scheduled to meet with a representative of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board on August 22, 1990, and would pose that question along with several others, including finding out the definition of a private party.
- 2) Commissioner Elliott asked staff whether the Commission was scheduled to review Palette's license. He feels that they were able to circumvent the Business License Commission. Bill Meeker informed the Commission that there was no review scheduled for Palette by the Business License Commission.
- 3) Commissioner Elliott asked staff for an annual calendar indicating which clubs would be coming up for review by the Business License Commission. Corey Roskin reported that "Circus of Books" was the only license scheduled for review.
- 4) Commissioner Maggio asked staff whether they were certain that Roxbury would be enlarging their stairways and hallways, and whether this would be accomplished by the next 6-month review. Bill Meeker informed the Commission that there would be no further 6-month review for the Roxbury and that the enlargement of their stairways and hallways was not required since it is not a condition of their license.

VIII ITEMS FROM STAFF:

- 1) Bill Meeker advised the Commission that there is a budgeted amount of \$400 per Commissioner available for conferences and seminars during the 1990/91 fiscal year. Staff will keep the Commission advised of any conferences or seminars of interest, and likewise, the Commissioners should advise staff if they become aware of anything.
- 2) Bill Meeker noted that the Planning Commission had recently held a retreat with staff, and that staff was strongly recommending that the Business License Commission also consider holding a retreat with staff. Bill suggested that a retreat be held on an

alternate Tuesday from the regular Commission meeting date and that November might be a good month.

- 3) Upon Bill Meeker's suggestion, the Commission discussed which day would be best for the regularly scheduled Commission meetings. It was decided that the meetings would be held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for September.

IX. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:

- 1) Rachelle Sommers Smith, West Hollywood, thanked the Commission for the plaque that had been presented to her. She urged the Commission to continue to lobby the City Council to include an annual review of the nightclubs in the Business License Ordinance. Also, she advised the Commission that in May 1989, the Commission approved the license for the Cavendish Card Club with the condition that the approved license was subject to a one-year review by staff with a report to the Commission on the operation of the licensed establishment. Since there has never been a report, she asked the Commission to follow up with staff. Bill Meeker indicated that staff would follow up.
- 2) Gerda Spiegler, West Hollywood, was looking for some clarification regarding the review process conducted by the Business License Commission. She noted that the Commission was being advised by staff not to ask certain questions that had been addressed at the time the license was granted; whereas, she feels that the Commission has a right to ask anything they like in the review process. Bill Meeker responded that the purpose of the six-month review process is not to rehash the issues that were initially researched at the time of the original business licensing process; it is merely a monitoring mechanism to determine if any complaints or serious issues have arisen in that initial review period which may warrant the calling of a public hearing to bring back the license for review and the attachment of additional conditions. He explained that that is the reason for steering the Commission away from rehashing issues that were fully researched previously, such as occupancy load and parking requirements.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Ellis adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on September 18, 1990, to be held in the Werle Building at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.



COMMISSION CHAIR



STAFF LIAISON TO THE COMMISSION