

**MINUTES
BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION
MEETING**

May 7, 1991

I. CALL TO ORDER

A 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 7:15 p.m. by Chairperson Carole Ellis.

A. Pledge of Allegiance led by Bruce Stinshoff

B. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Elliott, Ellis, Maggio

Commissioners Absent: Sonnenburg, Forbes

Staff Present: Anne Browning, Manager
Jennifer Davis, Planner
Corey Roskin, BL Officer
Derek Widdiss, Staff

C. Approval of Agenda:

Action: To approve agenda as prepared by staff.

Motion: Comm. Maggio
Second: Comm. Elliott

D. Approval of Minutes of April 2, 1991:

Commissioner Ellis asked for minor correction to minutes indicating that Commissioner Sonnenburg was present at last BLC meeting.

Action: To approve minutes with correction:

Motion: Comm. Elliott
Second: Comm. Maggio

Motion to approve minutes carries unanimously with all ayes from Commissioners.

II. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:

Rochelle Smith, W.H. - gave a report to the Commission regarding neighborhood meeting with nightclub representatives and City staff. Ms. Smith complained about staff's lack of participation and input due to time limitations placed on meetings by staff (problem with booking too many meetings on the same evenings, etc.). A brief overview of meeting was presented by Ms. Smith indicating the specific concerns that were addressed at neighborhood meeting. Encouraged staff to participate more fully in meetings and requested additional background information be provided to BLC and neighborhood meetings.

Jeff Puhr, W.H. - spoke regarding continuing noise problems emanating from Peanuts.

Lester Hirsch, W.H. - spoke regarding mufflers/motorcycle issue and indicated there are ways of metering sound with appropriate equipment. He stated that flashing lights on commercial properties should be disallowed because of negative visual impacts and attraction of "sleaze" type businesses.

Jeanne Dobrin, W.H. - spoke regarding City Council's approval of Fleetwood's appeal. Indicated that Fleetwood's has not yet applied for alcohol license. Ms. Dobrin asked BLC to start looking into noise abatement solutions (i.e. ordinances) in regards to growing motorcycle population coming into West Hollywood. Remarked about Peanuts neighborhood meeting and ongoing problems at club.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Peanuts update - staff recommends that the BLC receive and file report with an additional update to be presented at June 4th meeting.

Commissioners discuss ongoing problems occurring at Peanuts and the need for a possible publicly noticed hearing to suspend or condition Peanuts business license.

Commissioner Elliott made a motion to receive and file report.

Motion: Comm. Elliott
Second: Comm. Maggio

Motion to approve passes with all ayes from Commissioners.

Commissioner Maggio made a second motion to re-open

revocation hearing for consideration of suspension of Peanuts business license.

Motion: Comm. Maggio
Second: Comm. Elliott

Motion to approve passes with all ayes from Commissioners.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. BLC 91-002

Thrifty Oil Company dba
Thrifty Oil Company
7564 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90046

and Thrifty #191
8383 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

A continued public hearing from April 2nd BLC meeting for 24-hr. retail business license application.

A staff report was given by Corey Roskin with a recommendation to approve 24 hr. business licenses with conditions noted in Resolution No. BL 90-10.

APPLICANT COMMENTS:

Mr. Al Johnson spoke as a representative of Thrifty Oil Company. Requested that BLC approve 24 hr. business licenses.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ed Riney, W.H. - spoke regarding noise problems/loitering/traffic problems that will occur with 24 hr. businesses.

Lester Hirsch, W.H. - spoke against granting 24 hr. business licenses in City.

Jeanne Dobrin, W.H. - spoke against granting 24 hr. business license.

APPLICANT REBUTTAL:

Mr. Johnson replied to concerns of area residents and indicated that Thrifty Oil would work with neighbors and implement all conditions placed on business licenses.

Commissioners asked questions of applicant and voiced concerns regarding possible numerous problems that could occur at 24 hr businesses (i.e.- noise, loitering, prostituion, postential for increase criminal activities, etc.)

A motion was made to deny 24 hr. business license (BLC 91-002).

Motion: Comm. Maggio
Second: Comm. Ellis

Motion to deny 24 hr. business license (BLC 91-002) passes.

Ayes: Comm. Maggio
Comm. Ellis

No: Comm. Elliott

Second motion is made to deny 24 hr. business license (BLC 91-003).

Motion: Comm. Maggio
Second: Comm. Ellis

Motion to deny 24 hr. business license (BLC 91-003) passes.

Ayes: Comm. Maggio
Comm. Ellis

No: Comm. Elliott

V. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chairperson Ellis spoke about Rochelle Smith's recommendation to have staff meet with Sheriff's department (re: towing/parking problems). Indicated to staff that extra effort needed to be made to help solve ongoing problems on Sunset Boulevard (club areas). Asked staff to introduce new Sheriff's Capt. (Clarence Chapman) to BLC at next meeting.

VI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Elliot asked staff if all 24 hr. businesses could be brought before BLC for license consideration.

Commissioners agreed to have two BLC representatives go to BLC seminar/conference in Virginia Beach. Commission decided to send Commissioners Maggio and Elliott to Virginia Beach seminar/conference.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

A. Nightclub report given by Jennifer Davis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Thomas Crail, W.H. - spoke on behalf of Chamber of Commerce and requested a study session with nightclub council.

Jeanne Dobrin, W.H. - asked for some minor changes to staff report on nightclubs.

Lester Hirsch, W.H. - indicated that tax revenues generated by nightclubs as being minor in comparison to revenues spent by City for enforcement.

VIII ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:

Jeanne Dobrin, W.H. - spoke regarding staff's inclusion of Bar One under the definition of "nightclub".

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Ellis requests an adjournment to the next regularly schedule meeting of BLC on June 4, 1991.

A motion is made to adjourn.

Motion: Comm. Maggio
Second: Comm. Elliott

Motion to adjourn to next regularly scheduled BLC meeting passed with all ayes from Commissioners.

CHAIRPERSON

STAFF LIAISON TO COMMISSION