

BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION

MINUTES

Tuesday June 5, 2001
City of West Hollywood
Community Conference Room
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sonnenburg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL:
PRESENT: Commissioners – Maxine Sonnenburg, Stanley Stalford, Eric Thompson and James Kazakos.

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Benedetti, Acting Code Compliance Manager; Lisa Chilton, Business License Officer; Bruce Robertson, Administrative Staff Assistant.

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Action: To approve the Agenda.

Motion: Stalford Second: Sonnenburg

Votes: All Ayes Motion carried.

D. SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONERS

Councilmember John Duran administered the oath of office to new commissioners, Eric Thompson and James Kazakos.

E. ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Commissioner Kazakos nominated Vice-Chair Maxine Sonnenburg as Commission Chair. A second to this nomination was made by Commissioner Stalford.

Votes: All Ayes Motion carried.

Commissioner Kazakos nominated Commissioner Stalford as Vice-Chair. A second to this nomination was made by Commissioner Thompson.

Votes: All Ayes

Motion carried.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

To approve the minutes of May 1, 2001,

Motion: Stalford

Second: Sonnenburg

Votes: All Ayes

Motion carried.

III. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

- a. **Scott S. Smith, West Hollywood**, commented on noise coming from the Bel Age Hotel and spilling over into the adjoining neighborhoods. Mr. Smith also commented that much of the problem comes from guests who have conversations from their balconies late at night.

The Commission directed staff to bring an forth an informational item on the Bel Age at a future meeting when it would be appropriate for this information to be discussed. This will be done once the ongoing investigation that Staff is doing has been completed.

- b. **Avner Garbi Regev, West Hollywood**, commented that soundproofing from Club 7969 was removed after the recent fire and the noise coming from the club can be heard well into the neighborhood. Also club patrons are parking in residential areas.

The Commission also directed Staff to report back to them regarding this matter once their ongoing investigation has concluded.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The Business License Commission shall conduct a public hearing to Review compliance with Resolution No. BL2000-05 to evaluate it's effectiveness on Extended Hours License REG000092 for the 7702 Club located at 7702 Santa Monica Boulevard.

Tom Benedetti presented the staff report.

Chair Sonnenburg asked about the additional lighting that was added to the rear of Club 7702 and suggested that this condition not be eliminated from the conditions that were imposed by the Commission the November previous.

Public Testimony

- a. **Andreas Birgel, Encino**, representing Club 7702 spoke in behalf of the Club and noted to the Commission that the lights that have been mentioned will

remain in place as this is in the best interest of the Club. Mr. Birgel made himself available for questions by the Commission.

Commissioner Thompson asked Staff about the Club's ability to obtain an Extended Hours permit.

Staff responded that Club 7702 currently has a valid Extended Hours permit and that as such they would not be required to petition the City for one.

b. Vince Giolelli, West Hollywood, stated to the Commission that it is the Club's intention to remain open Friday & Saturday from Noon to 4:00 A.M., and the rest of the week from Noon to 2:00 A.M.

Action: To move the Staff report.

Motion: Kazakos

Second: Stalford

Votes: All Ayes

Motion carried.

V. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT - None

VI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Sonnenburg

- Asked about invitations that are regularly received by the Commission from the Argyle Hotel to attend a neighborhood social at the Hotel and questioned whether or not it would be appropriated for commissioners to attend?

Staff responded that commissioners should consult with each of the councilmembers that appointed them and discuss this matter with them. Staff also cautioned the commission to be aware of possible Brown Act violations if all commissioners were to attend in a given month.

- Commented on a letter recently received by Councilmember Jeffrey Prang that was addressed to the Business License Commission. The letter deals with a section of the Los Angeles Municipal Code that deals specifically with charitable events. The letters asks that the Commission consider adopting a similar resolution in the City's Business License Ordinance at a meeting in the near future.

After reviewing the letter Staff responded that the letter is a request to adopt wording such as this as a part of the West Hollywood Business License Ordinance. Staff also stated that this could be considered in the near future when this body undertakes the rewriting of its current ordinance.

The Commission asked Staff to look into this matter and report regarding this matter.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- A. Commission requested informational report on valet/lot management operation located south of the businesses in the 8200 block of Sunset Boulevard.

Tom Benedetti presented a brief report to the Commission.

In his report he highlighted the following points:

- The lot is operated and used by several businesses in the area. Among those businesses are Le Trocadero, Sushi on Sunset and The Body Shop.
- The lot is composed of two lots that are operated by United Valet Company.
- The main concerns with these lots are 1) noise, 2) valet company operating outside of its approved valet plan, 3) failure to enforce the barricade that is placed between the commercial and residential areas in an effort to keep commercial traffic from entering into these residential areas.
- Code Compliance met with the United Valet on 24 May 2001 to discuss complaints that have been received by the neighbors.
 1. As a result of this meeting the owner of United Valet is now on-site, at this location on the weekends to assure compliance to the City's prescribed regulations.

- B. Staff presented the Commission with a monthly report of the regulatory business license activity.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS - None

IX. OLD BUSINESS - None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Action: To adjourn to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Business License Commission to be held on July 3, 2001 from 6:00 p.m. until completion at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard in the Community Conference Room.


Motion: Stafford
Votes: All Ayes

Second: Kazakos
Motion carried.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS DAY OF

July 3, 2001

CHAIRPERSON:



ATTEST:

BUSINESS LICENSE OFFICER:

