

**MINUTES  
BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION**

February 5, 1991

**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 7:10 p.m. by Commission Co-Chair Scott Forbes.

A. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Elliott.

B. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Sonnenburg, Elliott,  
Forbes, Maggio

Commissioners Absent: Chairperson Ellis

Staff Present: Anne Browning, Manager  
Jennifer Davis, Planner  
Derek Widdiss, Staff  
Assistant

C. Approval of Agenda:

Action: To approve agenda as prepared by  
staff.

(Motion: Forbes Second: Sonnenburg)  
Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes:

Action: To approve the minutes of January 15,  
1991.

(Motion: Sonnenburg Second: Elliott)  
Motion carried unanimously.

**II. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS:**

Florence Delberian, West Hollywood - spoke regarding Fleetwood's ABC license (status).

Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood - spoke regarding Fleetwood's ABC license (status).

II. CONSENT CALENDAR - None.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

A. BLC 90-010  
Alhar Enterprises  
dba Peanuts  
7969 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Special hearing for consideration of revocation, suspension, or modification of business license(s)

Staff report given by Anne Browning.

Recommendation:

To take public testimony and, if appropriate, place conditions as recommended in Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Agency Representative Comments:**

Mike Kart, Los Angeles (Sheriff's investigator for Los Angeles). Gave a brief report and overview of incidents that have occurred at Peanuts during the past three (3) years.

Phil Cocker, W. Hollywood (Fire Prevention Bureau). Spoke regarding litigation that has been brought against Peanuts because of overcrowding violations.

Randall Richardson, Los Angeles (ABC representative). Indicated that there is no action pending against Peanuts. Outlined conditions of ABC license for the club.

**Applicant Comments:**

Joshua Feld, West Hollywood (President, Alhar Enterprises). Spoke on behalf of Peanuts. Indicated that most major problems have been corrected and requested that licenses for business should not be revoked or suspended.

Jonathan Golden, Los Angeles (Attorney representative for Alhar Enterprises dba Peanuts). Spoke on behalf of Mr. Feld and indicated that the meeting is improper and illegal and should not have been held.

**Commission Comments:**

Commissioners asked questions of applicant and applicant's legal representative regarding business activities at Peanuts.

**Public Comments:**

Kate Kahn, W. Hollywood - spoke regarding history of Peanuts and previous business on-site (Pink Pussycat). Indicated that the noise levels are too loud for abutting residential building. Requested that club alleviate noise problems.

Craig Silva, W. Hollywood - spoke regarding ongoing noise problems at Peanuts from both the building and parking lot.

Michelle Levick, W. Hollywood - spoke regarding noise problems that are ongoing at Peanuts.

Peter Kallen, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts. Indicated that the neighborhood is not good and the cause of the area's problems should not be directed at Peanuts.

Michelle Levy, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Eric Mason, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Robin Hayes, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Amy Roberts, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Linda Nelson, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Jay Weston, W. Hollywood - indicated that the current use of the property as Peanuts has caused increase in noise problems.

Heiche Richter, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Lawrence Ferguson, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Herbert Bass, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Janice DeSoto, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Lenicia Mitchell, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

David Behr, W. Hollywood - indicated that problems are still ongoing at Peanuts. Stated that conditions needed to be placed on their business licenses.

Rochelle Sommers-Smith, W. Hollywood - stated that problems at Peanuts have been ongoing for a number of years. Asked Commission to impose strict conditions on club.

Mildred Ray, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Donna Steele, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Anthony Seneko, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Florence Delberian, W. Hollywood - indicated that there are numerous problems ongoing at Peanuts. Asked for help to alleviate negative conditions at the club.

Jeffrey Purrs, W. Hollywood - spoke regarding many complaints he has filed against Peanuts. Indicated that there continues to be major problems with the club. Recommended a number of conditions that need to be placed on Peanuts to alleviate ongoing problems.

Donna Baltren, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Stacey Dancey, W. Hollywood (manager of Peanuts) - spoke on behalf of nightclub.

Randy Clark, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Jeanne Dobrin, W. Hollywood - spoke against Peanuts. Stated numerous complaints against club and its' owner, Josh Feld.

John Sargeant, W. Hollywood - spoke against Peanuts. Indicated that the club has been a bad neighbor for quite some time, etc.

Stephanie Head, W. Hollywood - spoke against Peanuts. Stated that club has had numerous problems with its' neighbors.

Joe Carillo, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Ken Kerman, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Lisa Boyle, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Lydia Nadell, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Michelle Underharr, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Derek Anthony, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Willie Martinez, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Michael Stein, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Bob Alexander, W. Hollywood - spoke against Peanuts. Cited many examples of noise problems, minors being served, etc.

Tracey Marts, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Jonathan Rosenthal, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Martin Felix, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Sam Finias, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Michael Guerlleman, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Gina Finias, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Stacey Robinson, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

Sammy Waxman, W. Hollywood - spoke on behalf of Peanuts.

**Applicant Rebuttal:**

Joshua Feld spoke in defense of Peanuts. Mr. Feld indicated that accusations against club are unfair and do not reflect bad business management at Peanuts.

Chairperson Forbes requests five minute break from meeting.

Reconvening of meeting - Chairperson Forbes requests that public hearing be closed.

Motion: Commissioner Elliott  
Second: Commissioner Sonnenburg

Motion to close public hearing passes (all ayes).

Commissioners discuss issues of concern regarding on-going problems at Peanuts.

Staff and City Attorney indicate a number of solutions that could be incorporated into a decision made by the Business License Commission.

A motion is made to place conditions on Peanuts Dance license as outlined by Commissioner Elliott.

Additional comments are made by the other Commissioners regarding specific conditions being placed on Dance license.

A motion is made to table the item until the next Business License Meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Sonnenburg  
Second: Chairperson Forbes

Motion to table item until the next regularly scheduled BLC meeting passes with all ayes from Commissioners.

The Commission requests the staff to set up a meeting with the area's neighbors and businesses in the vicinity of Peanut's to discuss mitigation measures to alleviate on-going problems in the neighborhood.

V. OTHER BUSINESS -None.

V. COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT

VI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Sonnenburg mentioned the upcoming Study Session on February 26th. Reminded Commissioners to invite City Councilmembers to attend meeting.

Commissioner Elliott spoke regarding funds that are available for BLC for attending seminars/conferences.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF - None.

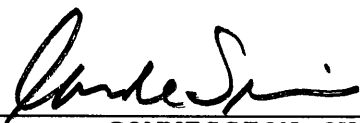
VIII ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

Jeanne Dobrin, West Hollywood - indicated that BLC did not have an adequate discussions regarding Peanuts.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Forbes adjourned to the next scheduled meeting (Study Session) to be held on February 26, 1991, to be held in the Werle Building at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 a.m.



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COMMISSION CHAIR



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STAFF LIAISON TO THE COMMISSION