



**BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MINUTES**

**Special Meeting
Tuesday, October 2, 2018
7:00 PM**

**West Hollywood City Hall – 1ST Floor Conference Room
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069**

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Kay called the meeting of the Business License Commission to order at 7:08 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Lo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Anthony, Vice-Chair Bridle, Chair Kay, Commissioner Kazakos, Commissioner King, Commissioner Lo, Commissioner Zaden

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Jeff Aubel, Code Compliance Manager, Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, Yessica Benitez, Code Compliance Supervisor, Ana Hernandez, Business License Officer, Jonathan Holub, Staff Attorney, and Falyn Kingi, Commission Secretary

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: Approve the Business License Commission Agenda of October 2, 2018. **Motioned by Commissioner Bridle, seconded by Commissioner Lo and approved.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 5, 2017

Action: Approve the Business License Commission minutes of Tuesday, December 5, 2017. **Motioned by Commissioner Zaden, seconded by Commissioner Kazakos, and approved.**

4. SPECIAL ITEMS

A. COMMISSION ELECTIONS

Action: Business License Commission elected Michael King as Chair and Robert Lo as Vice Chair.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

ROB BERGSTEIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concern regarding pawn shops that are located within 500' of one another. He requested there be a change in the code to limit the amount of pawn shops allowed in the city. He then gave well wishes to Code Compliance Manager, Jeff Aubel, in his retirement.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. RESOLUTION NO. BLC 18-0001 – A RESOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING EXTENDED HOURS BUSINESS LICENSE #EXT-004727 FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS PI ON SUNSET LOCATED AT 8828 SUNSET BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD.

Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated October 2, 2018 and noted a change to the recommended hours listed on the resolution.

JEFF AUBEL, Code Compliance Manager, informed the public that the revised resolution was available for review.

Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, stated the proposal was a request for an Extended Hours Business License that would allow an existing hookah lounge/restaurant to extend the hours of operation until 4:00 a.m. (daily). Normal business operations include interior and outdoor dining, extended pick-up & delivery services of food, and hookah services for an existing restaurant located at 8828 Sunset Boulevard (Pi On Sunset).

Staff feels that the allowance of an Extended Hours Business License until 4:00 a.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are appropriate at this location. Providing establishments that offer food and no alcohol service with extended hours offers patrons the opportunity to eat and sober up after consuming alcohol when leaving bars and nightclubs that close at 2:00 a.m. This promotes general public safety, and reduces the chances of driving under the influence and other related crimes.

The commission requested clarification to the type of service provided during the extended hours, security management, and current working

hours. They also expressed their concerns in the sale, service and consumption of alcoholic beverages during the extended hours of operation.

The commission had no official disclosures.

Chair King opened the public comment for Item 6A:

KELLY HAMADEH, APPLICANT, spoke on behalf of Pi on Sunset and detailed the reason for the request of the Extended Hours Business License. He then expressed his gratitude toward Staff and Commission for allowing him to.

Chair King closed the public hearing and directed Staff report back to the commission in 6 months to provide an update of all findings.

ACTION: 1) Approve the application, R 2) Amend Section 4 of Resolution BLC 18-0001 allowing staff to provide an update of all findings to the commission regardless of whether or not issues or problems are reported or found. . Motioned by Commissioner Zaden, seconded by Vice Chair Lo and approved unanimously.

B. RESOLUTION BLC 18-0002 - APPLICATION BY HOTELCRAFTERS, LLC FOR AN EXTENDED HOURS BUSINESS LICENSE #EXT-004728 FOR RESTAURANT KNOWN AS CROFT ALLEY, LOCATED INSIDE THE STANDARD HOTEL AT 8300 SUNSET BLVD., WEST HOLLYWOOD.

Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated October 2, 2018.

He stated that the proposal was a request for 24 hour service of the restaurant use only. He provided the history of the establishment and stated the restaurant was currently operating 24 hours per their Conditional Use Permit allowance. Staff recommended the approval of the Extended Hours Business License application.

Chair King opened the public comment for Item 6B:

CARL HUBBARD, APPLICANT, spoke on behalf of The Standard Hotel and concurred with the Staff Report.

Chair King closed the public comment.

Commissioner Kazakos questioned the ownership and affiliation of the applicant with the existing Standard Hotel located in Downtown Los Angeles.

Commissioner Anthony, Lo, and Bridle spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

ACTION: 1) Approve the application, 2) Adopt Resolution BL 18-002 as presented: APPLICATION BY HOTELCRAFTERS, LLC FOR AN EXTENDED HOURS BUSINESS LICENSE #EXT-004728 FOR RESTAURANT KNOWN AS CROFT ALLEY, LOCATED INSIDE THE STANDARD HOTEL AT 8300 SUNSET BLVD., WEST HOLLYWOOD. Motioned by Commissioner Kazakos, seconded by Commissioner Kay and approved unanimously.

C. RESOLUTION BLC 18-0003 - APPEAL OF THE DENIAL OF MASSAGE TECHNICIAN BUSINESS LICENSE #MST-004686 FOR ANGELINA SAR.

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood Business License Commission shall conduct a public hearing to consider an appeal of the denial of application for a Massage Technician Business License for Angelina Sar.

Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated October 2, 2018.

He explained the applicant's request for a Massage Technician Business License was denied based on the recommendation of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Commissioners questioned the criminal charge of the applicant, expressed concern of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's recommendation of denial of the business license noting no proof or supporting documents of any crime was provided to Staff.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick and Code Compliance Manager Jeff Aibel agreed that the results of the background investigations provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department are very brief and vague.

Commissioners Lo questioned if a Business License Commission Hearing was standard protocol after a denial of a business license.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick and Code Compliance Manager Jeff Aibel, explained that the West Hollywood Municipal Code mandates a Business License Commission Hearing be held upon a request for an appeal of a business license denial.

Commissioner Anthony raised concern to the conflicting information provided by the appellant and the background investigation. Specifically, the appellant's statement on the appeal form stated the criminal charge against her had been "expunged". He asked Staff Attorney Jonathan Holub to explain what expunged meant in laymen's term.

Chair King opened the public comment.

ANGELINA SAR, APPELLANT spoke in opposition of the staff recommendation to deny the business license and explained the incident occurred ten (10) years ago and she had since completed probation.

Commissioners Bridle, Anthony and Kay questioned the appellants understanding of the business license application.

ANGELINA SAR, APPELLANT informed the commission that a friend completed the business license application for her and she, Ms. Sar, understood all of the questions on the application.

Chair King closed the public hearing.

ACTION: 1) Approve the application, 2) Deny staff recommendation and approve the issuance of a Massage Technician Business License to Angelina Sar. **Motioned by Commissioner Anthony, seconded by Commissioner Kay and approved unanimously.**

D. Business License Amendment

Animal Grooming Operating Requirements.

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood Business License Commission shall review and make recommendations on an amendment to the operating requirements for Animal Grooming businesses found in Chapter 5.18.030 of the West Hollywood Business License Ordinance.

Dan Mick, Code Compliance Supervisor, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated October 2, 2018.

He stated that on December 18, 2017, the West Hollywood City Council considered an item that directed staff to develop new regulations for pet grooming facilities doing business in the City of West Hollywood, including stand-alone animal grooming facilities, mobile grooming facilities, and grooming facilities within a pet supplies store or pet daycare facility, to require training and certification for groomers.

Commissioners expressed their concerns and raised questions regarding the new Animal Grooming Ordinance and its intent. Specifically, commissioners requested to know if "Animal Grooming" was meant for all types of animals.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick referred the question to public speakers from Healthy Spot, West Hollywood, as they would be able to better answer all general practice questions.

Chair King opened the public comment.

ANDREW KIM, HEALTHY SPOT-WEST HOLLYWOOD, and DONNA OWENS, ONTARIO concurred with the Staff Report and explained the regulations and grooming standards for cats are very different; as such the new ordinance would apply to dogs only. They recommended the city make amendments specifically to address the grooming of cats to ensure their general safety.

Vice-Chair Lo requested clarification on the difference between a breakaway-leash versus the quick release leash.

ANDREW KIM, HEALTHY SPOT-WEST HOLLYWOOD explained that there is currently no commercial availability of break-away leashes and expressed concern in the usage of them as they have shown to increase the risk of injuries. He strongly suggested the use of a quick-release leash instead of breakaway leash.

Commissioner Bridle requested the timeframe in reporting an injury of a pet to the pet guardian.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick explained the amendment of the ordinance recommends a consultation with the customer take place prior to grooming. This will allow the pet guardian to discuss health and temperament concerns and to establish the animal's previous grooming history.

Commissioners expressed concern in the staff's recommendation requiring all grooming facilities 1) install video recording devices and 2) preserve video recordings for no less than three years.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick clarified that the staff's recommendation to keep video coverage for three years was required in the event of animal mistreatment, injury or death.

DONNA OWENS, ONTARIO concurred with Staff and pointed out that storing footage for three years may be excessive for smaller businesses.

Chair King closed the public comment.

Commissioner Bridle proceeded to thank the public for their presence and commended Staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Anthony raised concern with the verbiage on item number 3(J) of the proposed ordinance and suggested the verbiage be revised. "Animals with a collapsed trachea or other breathing problems shall only be tethered or restrained in such a manner which minimizes pressure to the neck and or airway of the animal." He also directed staff combine Section 3.N and Section 3.O on the proposed ordinance.

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick agreed to revise the verbiage to present to Council.

ACTION: 1) Adopt the ordinance as amended: a) Add language to include grooming leashes suitable for cats, b) Set a minimum amount of time to allow video recording be stored, c) Change the verbiage on Section 3.J to: *“Animals with a collapsed trachea or other breathing problems shall only be tethered or restrained in such a manner which minimizes pressure to the neck and or airway of the animal”*, and d) remove Section 3.O and combine it into Section 3.N.

Motioned by Vice-Chair Lo, seconded by Commissioner Bridle and approved unanimously.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Business License Officer Ana Hernandez announced the next AB1234 training that will be held Saturday, November 10, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room. The City Clerk’s office will be sending more information.

Business License Officer Ana Hernandez announced the next Annual Congress of Commission and Advisory Boards that will be held Wednesday, November 28, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the West Hollywood Park Auditorium and Council Chambers

Code Compliance Supervisor Dan Mick announced there will be a Business License Commission Meeting to review the Cannabis Licensing Process and date will be given at a later date.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

11. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Zaden requested copies of the Commission By-Laws.
Vice-Chair Lo gave well wishes to Code Compliance Manager, Jeff Aibel, in his retirement expressed gratitude and appreciation for his service to the city of 25 years

Chair King requested to know when the By-Laws would be updated to reflect the proposed time change of future Business License Commission Meetings.
City Clerk Yvonne Quarker explained that various Commissions and Advisory Boards have requested changes of the By-Laws. As such, the requested changes from various commissions and boards would be presented to Council as a whole

Chair King briefly touched upon the public comment by ROB BERGSTEIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, in regard to the pawn shops and suggested that the item be placed on the agenda.

Code Compliance Supervisor Yessica Benitez clarified that the purview of such request to limit the amount of pawn shops in the city falls in the purview of the Planning Commission.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Business License Commission adjourned at 10:15 p.m. to the next required meeting of this body, to be determined by the Director, and be held at West Hollywood City Hall at 6:00 p.m., 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Business License Commission of the City of West Hollywood at a special meeting held this 27th day of November, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES:	Commissioner:	Anthony, Bridle, Kay, Kazakos, Zaden, Vice-Chair Lo, and Chair King.
NOES:	Commissioner:	None
ABSENT:	Commissioner:	None
ABSTAIN:	Commissioner:	None



MICHAEL KING, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



FALYN KINGI, COMMISSION SECRETARY