

**BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK PUBLIC MEETING ROOM - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
625 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD**

7:00 P.M. – SPECIAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chair Lo called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Saltzman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. OATH OF OFFICE- Councilmember Lauren Meister administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Commissioner Kimberly Copeland

C. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Anthony
Commissioner Copeland
Commissioner Kay
Commissioner Kazakos
Commissioner Saltzman
Commissioner Zaden
Vice-Chair Lo

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Code Compliance Manager, Danny Rivas
Code Compliance Supervisor, Yessica Benitez
Code Compliance Supervisor, Dan Mick
Assistant City Attorney, Lauren Langer
Commission Secretary, Falyn Kingi
Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

SUBJECT: The Business License Commission is requested to approve the agenda.

ACTION: Code Compliance Manager, Danny Rivas, requested that the second item listed as 2A be changed to 2B, item 4A be tabled by the commission until our next scheduled meeting on August 13, 2019, and item 1FA be relocated to 4A. Approve the Business License Commission Agenda of July 16, 2019. **Motion by Commissioner Zaden to approve the July 16, 2019, agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Kay and approved.**

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SUBJECT: The Business License Commission is requested to approve the minutes of prior Business License Commission meetings.

ACTION: Approve the minutes of May 7, 2019. **Motion by Commissioner Saltzman to approve the May 7, 2019, minutes, seconded by Commissioner Anthony and approved.**

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

RUBBI DENISE EGER, LOS ANGELES, spoke in opposition of both items 2A and 2B.

MICHAEL KING, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the Business License Commission as the former Chair.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. APPLICATION BY FLORE FLORA, LLC FOR A CANNABIS BUSINESS LICENSE FOR CONSUMPTION AREA (SMOKING, VAPING, EDIBLES) FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS LOWELL CAFE, TO BE LOCATED AT 1201 NORTH LA BREA AVE

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood Business License Commission shall conduct a public hearing to consider the application by Flore Flora, LLC for a cannabis business license for Consumption Area (Smoking, Vaping, Edibles), for the business known as Lowell Café, to be located at 1201 North La Brea Ave.

Business License Commission Secretary, Falyn Kingi, stated that the item was noticed as required by law.

Code Compliance Supervisor, Dan Mick, and Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated July 16, 2019.

Code Compliance Supervisor, Dan Mick, stated that the business met all zoning requirements and obtained their zone clearance in April of 2019. He then provided multiple visuals of the exterior and interior design renderings, floor plans, and discussed the security plan.

Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, provided information regarding the Odor Control Standards, Hours of Operation, Neighborhood Impact Mitigation, License Duration, Requirements for License Issuance, Grounds for Denial of License, and the Staff Recommendation.

Commissioner Kay inquired about a rideshare pick up location in front of the location. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, stated that the business has a parking lot and a lot that customers can circle through.

Commissioner Kay inquired about tobacco smoking on the property and the smell of cannabis. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, stated tobacco is not allowed on the property and further explained the filtration system. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, also explained the enforcement process with the Code Compliance division.

Commissioner Saltzman inquired about the zoning requirements. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, gave an overview of how the zoning requirements were created and the requirements that are in place.

Commissioner Anthony inquired about the security requirements. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, confirmed that the applicant will have three security guards on site and one security guard roaming the perimeter of the location.

Commissioner Anthony expressed concern with the language used in the resolution in reference to the word "responsible". Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, and Assistant City Attorney, Lauren Langer, confirmed the language could be discussed after the public hearing.

JEFF SEYMORE, CONSULTANT, and KEVIN BRADY, GENERAL MANAGER, presented on behalf of the applicant. KEVIN BRADY provided information on the concept of the restaurant, air filtration, security and spoke on the importance of the community and neighborhood.

NORMAN CHRAMOF, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2A.

STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2A.

SCOTT SCHMIDT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2A.

JAKE STEVENS, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2A.

WESLEY BRIDLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2A.

GENEVIEVE MORRILL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2A.

LARRY BLOCK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2A.

JEFF SEYMORE, CONSULTANT, spoke regarding the applicant's commitment to the City and the Temple.

Commissioner Anthony expressed concerned with the HVAC system and onsite consumption.

KEVIN BRADY, GENERAL MANAGER, explained that additional HVAC systems can be installed if needed. He also explained that there will be a dialogue with the guest and they will track consumption.

Commissioner Kay suggested that the applicant place signs up directing drivers where to drop of patrons.

JEFF SEYMORE, CONSULTANT, agreed to look into initiating some type of signage.

The following individuals were not able to attend, but submitted an email in support of the item: Estevan Montemayor and Jennifer McGrath.

Commissioner Saltzman spoke regarding the concerns of the Temple and the conditions on the license. He also stated that the Business License Commission does not have any grounds for denial.

ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. BLC-19-____, "A RESOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING CANNABIS CONSUMPTION AREA (SMOKING, VAPING, EDIBLES) BUSINESS LICENSE #CCA-000002 FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS LOWELL CAFE TO BE LOCATED AT 1201 NORTH LA BREA AVE." (Attachment A). **Motion by Commissioner Zaden, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman and approved.**

B. APPLICATION BY PLEASURE MED, LLC FOR A CANNABIS BUSINESS LICENSE FOR ADULT-USE RETAIL, MEDICAL-USE RETAIL, CONSUMPTION AREA (SMOKING, VAPING, EDIBLES) AND DELIVERY SERVICE FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS PLEASUREMED, LOCATED AT 7715 SANTA MONICA BLVD.

SUBJECT: The West Hollywood Business License Commission shall conduct a public hearing to consider the application by Pleasure Med LLC for cannabis business licenses in the following categories: Adult-Use Retail; Medical-Use Dispensary; Consumption Area (Smoking, Vaping, Edibles); and Delivery Service, for the business known as PleasureMed, to be located at 7715 Santa Monica Blvd.

Code Compliance Supervisor, Yessica Benitez, stated that the item was noticed as required by law.

Code Compliance Supervisor, Dan Mick, and Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, provided background information as provided in the staff report dated July 16, 2019.

Code Compliance Supervisor, Dan Mick, stated that the business met all zoning requirements and obtained their zone clearance in April of 2019. The proposed business will be a two story building and will share a parking lot with the adjacent business, Pleasure Chest. An overview of the floor plan, business plan, security plan was also given.

Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, provided information regarding the Odor Control Standards, Hours of Operation, Neighborhood Impact Mitigation, License Duration, Requirements for License Issuance, Grounds for Denial of License, and the Staff Recommendation.

Commissioner Anthony expressed concern with regulating consumption between first and second floor.

Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, explained that the applicant and employees will continue to create a dialogue with the customers and continue to educate.

Commissioner Saltzman expressed concern with patrons being allowed to bring in their own cannabis products and delivery zones. Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, John Leonard, provided a response.

JOHN MADDOCKS, CONSULTANT, and BRIAN ROBINSON, OWNER, spoke on behalf of Pleasure Med.

BRIAN ROBINSON, OWNER, provided background information and demographics on The Pleasure Chest. He emphasized that Pleasure Meds will be an extension of The Pleasure Chest and will continue to help people feel safe to explore by empowering them with education while providing quality products.

SCOTT SCHMIDT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

SOL YAMIN, BEVERLY HILLS, spoke in support of 2B.

AREE KHODAI, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

GENEVIEVE MORRILL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

JAKE STEVENS, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

ALEXANDER ALI, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

KIRK PEREINA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

TAASEEN QURESHI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

NICOLE FOX, ALTADENA, spoke in support of 2B.

ERRON SILVERSTEIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

CHRISTOPHER WILLEY, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of 2B.

JEFF DANZER, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

SHERRI FRANKLIN, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of 2B.

The following individuals were not able to attend, but submitted an email in support of the item: John Halter, Jennifer McGrath, and Armen Yemenidjian.

ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. BLC19-XXXX, "A RESOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING CANNABIS ADULT-USE RETAIL BUSINESS LICENSE #CAU-000003, CANNABIS MEDICAL-USE DISPENSARY BUSINESS LICENSE #CMU-000001, CANNABIS CONSUMPTION AREA (SMOKING, VAPING, EDIBLES) BUSINESS LICENSE #CCA-000001, AND CANNABIS DELIVERY SERVICE BUSINESS LICENSE #CDW-000001 FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS PLEASUREMED, TO BE LOCATED AT 7715 SANTA MONICA BLVD" (Attachment A). **Motion by Commissioner Zaden, seconded by Commissioner Anthony and approved.**

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMISSION ELECTIONS

SUBJECT: The Commission will elect a Chair to head the Business License Commission.

ACTION: The Business License Commission elected Vice Chair, Robert Lo, as Chair.

5. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. COMMISSION & ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL TRAINING

Code Compliance Manager, Danny Rivas, announced the next the Annual Training with all Commissioners and Advisory Board Members, Staff Liaisons, and Commission Secretaries that will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

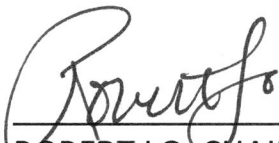
None

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

None

8. ADJOURNMENT: The Business License Commission adjourned at 9:32 p.m. to the next required meeting of this body, to be determined by the Director, and be held at West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room - Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente 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 13th day of August, 2019.



ROBERT LO, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



FALYN KINGI, COMMISSION SECRETARY