



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON N. BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
KATY TANG, DIRECTOR

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 2024, 4:30 P.M.

City Hall, Room 400, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

1. Call to order and roll call

Meeting called to order at 4:32pm

Present: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

2. Approval of Legacy Business Registry Applications and Resolutions (Discussion and Action Item)

The Commission reviewed the following Legacy Business Registry applications:

- a. Bob's Donuts and Pastries (Application No.: [LBR-2023-24-038](#))
- b. Joanne's Beauty Boutique (Application No.: [LBR-2023-24-035](#))
- c. MPA Design (Application No.: [LBR-2023-24-015](#))
- d. Roberts Corned Meats, Inc. (Application No.: [LBR-2023-24-044](#))
- e. The Verdi Club (Application No.: [LBR-2023-24-029](#))

Public comment:

Lauren Homisack, Verdi Club President

Bonnie McGregor, Verdi Club

Name unknown, Joanne's Beauty Salon

Rebekah Ahn, Bob's Donuts

Greg Dixon, Robert's Corned Meats

Barbara Daggs, Joanne's Beauty Boutique

Commissioners congratulated the applicants.

Motion to approve Legacy Business Registry Applications: Ortiz-Cartagena

2nd: Herbert

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

3. BOS File 240412 Repealing Deemed Approved Off-Sale Alcohol Use Nuisance Ordinance (Discussion and Action Item)

Lorenzo Rosas, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Stefani, presented an ordinance amending the Administrative Code to repeal Chapter 26, known as the Deemed Approved Off-Sale Alcohol Use Nuisance Regulations, and thereby repealing certain City provisions regulating establishments that sell alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption. Lorenzo acknowledged Dominica Donovan in his office for her work with the Commission that led to this proposal.

Commissioner Comment

Zouzounis: Thanks to Sup. Stefani. This is a great example of collaborative work – watching SBC work go from idea to policy.

Ortiz-Cartagena: Acknowledged the work Commissioner Zouzounis put into this.

Motion to recommend BOS File 240412 with support: Zouzounis

2nd: Herbert

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

4. BOS File 240411 Polk Street Neighborhood Commercial District (Discussion and Action Item)

Nate Horrell, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Peskin, presented an ordinance amending the Planning Code to create an exception to allow storefront mergers and large uses for certain Limited Restaurant Uses designated as Legacy Businesses in the Polk Street Neighborhood Commercial District.

Commissioner Comment:

Zouzounis: are there other changes that were considered in this proposal? Nate explained that Planning Commission had additional suggestions but Sup. Peskin did not include those in this ordinance.

Motion to recommend BOS File 240411 with support: Benitez

2nd: Cornet

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

The Commission heard item 6 ahead of item 5 to accommodate the presenter.

5. BOS File 240407 Tenderloin Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program (Discussion Item)

Director Tang described an ordinance amending the Police Code to create a two-year pilot program, during which retail food and tobacco establishments in a high-crime area of the Tenderloin police district are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.; and authorizing the Department of Public Health to impose administrative fines for violation of the hours restriction. To support the Mayor's proposal, OSB conducted door to door outreach to all businesses in the pilot program area. This is pending its second vote at the Board of Supervisors, so it's a discussion item. It was amended to allow retail businesses with liquor licenses to open until 2am, so they will be restricted from operating during 2-5am.

Commissioner comment:

Zouzounis: This is a good example of community organizations and agencies coming together and finding compromise. It's important to acknowledge the different reality of who/what we allow to be consumed in public spaces – comparing the last item to this one.

Huie: Thanks to the Mayor for proposing this and to OSB for assisting with outreach.

Public Comment:

Pratiba, Generational Housing Clinic. The community is afraid to go out at night, so there is a lot of support for this. 521 people signed onto a letter in support. This began with a conversation with the Mayor during one of the police station community meetings we hold, and it was requested by the community.

Greg Johnson: I'm a resident of the Tenderloin and as a community we are figuring out how to address the problems we see. This is a chance to try something new out and see how it works. We can revisit and assess if we're making progress or not.

6. BOS File 240475 Entertainment Zones (Discussion Item)

Ben Van Houten, Office of Economic and Workforce Development presented an ordinance amending the Administrative, Police, and Transportation Codes to allow the establishment and management of Entertainment Zones in which the outdoor consumption of alcoholic beverages during designated events is allowed, subject to certain conditions; to establish insurance requirements for Entertainment Zone events; to establish an Entertainment Zone on Front Street between California Street and Sacramento Street; to allow the outdoor

consumption of alcoholic beverages in areas subject to a Shared Space permit where the permit holder also holds a permit or license from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Commissioner comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: totally support this

Herbert: This is a great idea.

Zouzounis: Off-sale liquor licence holders should be able to participate in these zones as well.

Huie: Does the zone have to be connected to the businesses that are already there? Yes, or a nonprofit that's hosting it. At the state, there are efforts to remove the special event requirements which are redundant.

Public comment:

Simon Bertrand, Executive Director of SF New Deal: fully support this idea. SF New Deal is working to bring more activations through Entertainment Zones to downtown, though a program called Downtown Energy.

7. BOS File 240470 Exempting Legacy Business Assistance Program from City Grant Requirements (Discussion and Action Item)

Richard Kurylo, Legacy Business Program Manager, Office of Small Business presented an ordinance amending the Administrative Code to exempt the Legacy Business Assistance Program from the grantmaking requirements under Administrative Code, Chapter 21G, and all other provisions in the Administrative, Labor and Employment, Environment, and Police Codes imposing obligations or other restrictions on contractors.

Motion to recommend BOS File 240470 with support: Cornet

2nd: Benitez

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

8. Business Stabilization Grant (Discussion and Action Item)

Richard Kurylo, Legacy Business Program Manager, Office of Small Business presented the proposed Rules and Regulations for the proposed Business Stabilization Grant under the Legacy Business Assistance Program (Administrative Code [Section 2A.246](#)).

Motion to approve draft regulations: Cornet

2nd: Herbert

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

9. BOS File 240406 Annual Retail Food Special Event Permit (Discussion and Action Item)

Director Tang presented an ordinance amending the Health and Business and Tax Regulations Codes to create a new annual retail food permit for food operators participating in special events and set the fees for the new permit. She explained there is cost savings for food vendors depending on what they sell and how many events they attend.

Commissioner comments:

Herbert: Would the same vendor be able to serve different food at various events with this permit? It would depend on their setup – if they need an open flame permit for certain events, that would require an additional inspection.

Huie: When would a vendor see cost savings? For a low hazard special event food vendor, they would see savings when they participate in at least six events per year. For a high hazard vendor, it would be four events in a year.

Motion to recommend BOS File 240470 with support: Benitez

2nd: Cornet

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

10. BOS File 240474 Existing Awning Amnesty Program (Discussion and Action Item)

Director Tang explained an ordinance amending the Building and Planning Codes to make permanent the streamlined permitting provisions for unpermitted awnings and extend the waiver of applicable fees for one fiscal year, until July 1, 2025. This would make the simplified application process permanent.

Motion to recommend BOS File 240474 with support: Herbert

2nd: Benitez

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

11. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes (Discussion and Action Item)

Motion to approve 4.22.24 meeting minutes: Huie

2nd: Zouzounis

Ayes: Benitez, Cornet, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Absent: Dickerson

Motion passes 6-0-1

12. General Public Comment (Discussion Item)

No members of the public requested to speak

13. Director's Report (Discussion Item)

Budget Update: OSB has been advocating for 3 new Permit Center positions and 1 additional Commercial Leasing Specialist to significantly improve the way commercial permits are handled and facilitate data tracking (timelines; proactive outreach to applicants; and more).

June 26 (Wed) – final budget deliberations

Legislative Updates:

- California State Senate Bill No. 925 (Wiener) - Combating Street Fencing of Stolen Goods. State Senator Weiner has proposed language to amend state law around street vending to better allow local jurisdictions to regulate on sales of stolen goods
- BOS File 240408 (Sponsor: Mayor) – Fee Waivers for Qualifying Neighborhood Outdoor Events (passed by BOS)
 - Sponsor must be a nonprofit or small business with <\$5 million in gross revenue or neighborhood/merchant association
 - Event must not have major SFMTA impacts
 - No more than 3 blocks long or one block hub/spoke layout
 - Application goes to SFMTA prior to ISCOTT hearing
 - Waives DPH, SFFD, Entertainment Commission, SFPD.

Heritage Happy Hours

- July 11, 2024: The Dubliner, 3838 24th St. in District 8.
- August 8, 2024: St. Mary's Pub, 3845 Mission St. in District 9
- September 12, 2024: Elixir, 3200 16th St. in District 8.

14. Commissioner Discussion and New Business (Discussion Item)

Benitez: The Divisadero Art Walk is on July 25th

Zouzounis: Tenderloin Block Party was a great event. Also attended an EID event. The Tenderloin is working towards more collaboration with CBDs. Joined DPH for a recap of their tobacco initiative work and tools they developed to help small businesses.

Huie: Chinatown is now hosting monthly night markets.

Cornet: Casa Guadalupe is moving forward- very exciting. Having conversations about how to activate Caesar Chavez and 26th street area.

15. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.