

## **SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, January 26, 2026 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 4:30pm

Present: Benitez, Cornet, Dickerson, Herbert, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis (late)

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

Richard Kurylo, Legacy Business Program Manager, Office of Small Business presented the following Legacy Business Registry applications.

- a. The Book Club of California (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-022](#))
- b. Bulo Shoes (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-018](#))
- c. Digital Revolution (Application No.: [LBR-2024-25-063](#))
- d. Family Billiards (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-014](#))
- e. Roccapulco (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-015](#))
- f. San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-021](#))
- g. Tsing Tao Restaurant (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-011](#))

Public Comment:

Paul Ribaldi, owner of Digital Revolution

Molly Sender, SF Gay Men's Chorus

Kevin Kosik, Executive Director, the Book Club

Enrico Perella, owner, Bulo Shoes

Leslie Pruins, Tsing Tao

Julie Fischer, Tsing Tao

Angelina Yu, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Chan, in support of Tsing Tao

Commissioners congratulated applicants.

Motion to approve Legacy Business applications: Dickerson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Herbert

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

Motion passes (7-0)

### **3. Super Bowl 2026 Update (Discussion Item)**

Adam Lewis, Bay Area Host Committee, discussed the Bay Area Host Committee efforts to engage small businesses in preparation for Super Bowl 2026. Goal of host committee is to drive economic/cultural/social impact. Small Business Source: developing a local supplier tool for future events. Produced a public screening playbook with guidelines for small businesses to participate in Super Bowl events.

Commissioner comments:

Huie: is the local suppliers guide available? Not yet

Ortiz-Cartagena: thanks for all of this work

Herbert: How long has the host committee operated? 2 years

Zouzounis: Will you help with wayfinding/maps to help direct people? Yes.

**4. BOS File 251251 – Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program (Discussion and Action Item)**

Bryan Dahl, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Dorsey presented an Ordinance amending the Police Code to expand the current Tenderloin retail hours restriction pilot program, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in the restricted area are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., or from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. if subject to regulation by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to encompass a high-crime area across the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods; and to extend the duration of the pilot program, currently set to expire in July 2026, to instead expire 18 months from the effective date of this Ordinance.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Huie: Where is the illegal activity going – is being pushed elsewhere? Bryan wasn't aware. The focus of the legislation is to prevent gathering at night. This would sunset in 18 months.

Huie: What other efforts are you pursuing to address this? We've been working to get additional beat officers.

Cornet: is there data from the DMACC operations on the impacts of the pilot? Yes, data shows a 56% decrease in large gatherings.

Zouzounis: Prior to COVID, SBC looked at fee justice, removing outdated codes, etc. Now we're seeing a focus on legislation for rich people. There are significant food access concerns in these neighborhoods. The two main solutions merchants have been offered alongside this proposal are land use changes and increased police staffing. This vilifies a certain demographic of businesses. There needs to be carrots along with sticks.

Bryan: We want longlasting solutions. OEWD will help with outreach.

Herbert: When these businesses close, where will people go? We've seen a 13% decline in narcotics/late night violent crime and 18% decline in calls for service between 12-5am in the pilot.

Zouzounis: SBC can play a role by requesting new mitigation measures- better refrigeration upgrades to help businesses meet upcoming energy requirements.

Motion to support legislation and to explore/identify long terms solutions ot equity concerns and consider long term mitigation efforts.

No 2<sup>nd</sup>

Motion to oppose this legislation: Zouzounis:

2<sup>nd</sup>: Dickerson

Aye: Benitez, Cornet, Dickerson, Ortiz-Cartagena, Zouzounis

Nay:

Abstain: Huie, Herbert

Motion passes (5-0 with 2 abstentions)

**5. BOS File 260025 - Acceptance of Cash by Brick-and-Mortar Businesses (Discussion and Action Item)**

Melanie Mathewson, Legislative Aide to President Mandelman, presented on an Ordinance amending the Police Code to delete Article 55 and thereby repeal the requirement that brick-and-mortar businesses accept cash for the purchase of goods and services other than professional services.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Commissioner Comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: I asked my community about this proposal and in the Mission businesses said as long as they had the choice to accept cash if they want, they were fine with it.

Herbert: My business in Oakland went cashless and we didn't experience any more break ins after.

Cornet: NAACP argued its discriminatory

**6. FY 26-27 Budget Priorities (Discussion and Action Item)**

Anne Taupier, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development and Merrick Pascual, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Economic and Workforce Development discussed the Mayor's budget instructions and President Huie reviewed draft FY26-27 Office of Small Business and Small Business Commission budget priorities.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Commissioner comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: OEWD and OSB has a high ROI.

Director Tang clarified another budget presentation will come to SBC in February.

Motion to approve FY26-27 Budget Priorities: Benitez

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cornet

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

Motion passes (7-0)

**7. Election of Officers – Small Business Commission President (Discussion and Action Item)**

Commissioner Dickerson nominated Cynthia Huie as President. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Herbert.

No members of the public requested to speak.

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

Motion passes (7-0)

**8. Election of Officers – Small Business Commission Vice President (Discussion and Action Item)**

Commissioner Zouzounis nominated Commissioner Ortiz Cartagena as Vice President. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cornet.

No members of the public requested to speak.

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

Motion passes (7-0)

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

No members of the public requested to speak.

Motion to approve draft meeting minutes from 12.8.26: Benitez

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cornet

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

Motion passes (7-0)

**10. General Public Comment (Discussion Item)**

No members of the public requested to speak.

**11. Director's Report (Discussion Item)**

Commissioner Cornet is up for reappointment at BOS.

Sup. Sherrill has requested a hearing on accessibility reviews for sidewalk projects.

Sup. Mandelman has a Resolution to make Glen Park an Entertainment Zone

Sup. Wong has requested a hearing on PG&E power outages and its impacts.

OEWD just launched the Storefront Opportunity Grant.

No members of the public requested to speak.

**12. Commissioner Discussion and New Business (Discussion Item)**

Ortiz-Cartagena: discussed 2 new business openings in Visitacion Valley.

He recently worked with SFMTA on a street closure and Director Kirschbaum was incredibly helpful with permitting for the event.

Huie: Working in Chinatown with Recology to arrange for additional cardboard trash pickup pilot. Alos wanted to know how agencies coordinate when streets are repaved/closed to make sure it's coordinated.

Cornet: Chicano Nuevo has a soft opening.

**13. Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.**