

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2023
Meeting ID: 824 1641 1153

Attendance (Board Members): Jenelle Bazil-Charles, Committee Chair; Yisroel Lehrer; Zlati Mochkin

Attendance (Community Resident Members): Jean-Jacques, Zeng

Absent (Board Members): Khyrie Alleyne; Chavi Cohen

Absent (Community Resident Members): Carmen Martinez; Victor Sanchez-Lloveras

Guests: Nicolas Almonor; Rod Herbert; John Kristensen; John McKee; Richard Raphael; Michelle Rock; Theresa Westerdahl

CB9 Staff: Mia N. Hilton, Assistant District Manager

I. Call to Order

- a. Chair, Jenelle Bazil-Charles, called the committee meeting to order at 7:07 pm

II. Old Business

- a. Due to unforeseeable circumstances, Committee Chair Jenelle Bazil-Charles advised that she had to postpone the Public Safety meeting, that was originally scheduled for the evening of Thursday, November 9th to this evening

III. New Business

- a. Committee Chair suggested that we wait till the end of the meeting to vote on SLA applications
- b. Applications to the New York State Liquor Authority
 - i. IVY Mix d/b/a Entity to Be Determined – 225 Rogers Avenue (Union/President Streets), Brooklyn, New York 11225; Application for new Liquor, Wine, Beer, and Cider License
 1. Applicants Connor, Piper and Ivy appeared
 2. Currently operate Fiasco Wine and Spirits directly across the street at 1148 Union Street
 3. Seeking to open a wine bar across the street from their current wine spirits establishment, which was already housing a bar (Branch Ofc) that is shutting down.
 4. Member Zlati asked SLA Applicants if there would be any renovations to the property if application was approved
 - a. Applicants said that any renovations done would be minor and soundproofing will be installed
 5. CB 9 Member Yisroel asked if outdoor hours would be the same as the establishment.
 - i. SLA Applicants responded no, and said that the outdoor area would close at 11 pm.

6. Guest Rod H. asked SLA Applicants what would be the impact of the business on the residents of the building when they stayed open late till 2am on Holidays and Events. Rod also asked about security, and who would be staffing the business.
 - a. Applicants informed board that they would be mindful of the residents.
 - i. Applicants also advised that there would be no security at their establishment as they seen no need for security. Lastly, the applicants said that they would try to hire residents from the community; They have already hired David Santiago to manage the establishment
7. Guest Theresa W. said that concern would be music after hours.
 - a. Applicants responded by saying that not only do they will not be using any live music, and will play only background music.
- ii. D' Avenue, LLC d/b/a The Westbury Inn – 673 Flatbush Avenue (Hawthorne/Winthrop Streets), Brooklyn, New York 11225; Application for the Renewal of a Liquor, Wine, Beer, and Cider License
 1. Applicant has been in business for 11 years now and as such, this was his fifth SLA Application renewal.
 2. Guest Rod H. asked SLA Applicant about history of noise complaints, or any other complaints.
 - a. Applicant said that there is no history of any noise complaints or any other complaints for that matter.
 - b. Applicant stated that the only time he has any interaction with law enforcement is when an incident, unrelated to his establishment, occurs outside of his establishment and law enforcement needs to review his outdoor cameras.
 - c. Committee Chair asked the applicant has he ever partnered with the Community Board to host certain events.
 - i. Applicant responded that he has but when COVID had hit, it stalled everything, and such plans never came back up yet.
 3. CB 9 Member Zlati asked applicant about a box that wasn't checked in his SLA Application, pertaining to the residents being aware and approving of the establishment.
 - a. Applicant said that the residents were fully aware of his establishment and in the 11 years he has been operating, he never had any issues, and they are long term tenants as well
- iii. Glady's Venture 2 LLC – 453-455 Rogers Avenue (Lincoln Road/Maple Street) Brooklyn, New York 11225; Application for new Liquor, Wine, Beer, and Cider License
 1. Applicant absence was confirmed by District Manager Mia
- c. Presentation
 - i. Elite Learners – unable to present due to this meeting being postponed to today.
- d. Office of Cannabis Management applicant
 - i. Committee Chair Jenelle stated that the process for reviewing OCM applications should mirror the process for reviewing SLA Applications
 - ii. Theresa said that we should have a Town Hall meeting about OCM
 1. Committee Chair said that she agreed and thinks that's a good idea. Committee Chair Jenelle also said that we should visit other board meetings to see how they are reviewing OCM applications.

- iii. CB 9 Member Yisroel L. voiced his concerns for the OCM Applicant, doing business as Flatbush Exotic. The location for such establishment is 544 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225. The issue that Yisroel brought up is that while this establishment is asking to be receive a license, they have been operating illegally, without a license. CB 9 Member Zlati chimed in and confirmed Yisroel sentiments by saying that the establishment, Flatbush Exotic, is opened 24-hours a day, 7-days a week and does indeed sell drugs in there illegally. Rod H. also voiced his concerns on this matter.
- iv. Resident Member Zeng reiterated to Yisroel what was said in reference to establishments operating illegally without a license to dispense cannabis. Per the previous Community Board meeting for Public Safety, it was mentioned that whenever an establishment is operating as a dispensary illegally but are trying to legalize their conduct by now applying for a cannabis license, we should flag them to prevent them from being able to move forward.
- v. Guest Rod H. asked if Board members, we have the obligation to report illegal dispensaries.
 - 1. Asst. District Manager Mia Hilton advised everyone in attendance that we should report such issues to the Community Board so that they can properly address this issue.
- vi. Committee Chair informed Public Safety Committee that the Fire Safety event for November 19, 2023, would not be happening due to the fact that budget cuts now prevented such events from happening on the weekends. As a result of such, we would have to figure out a weekday to host such event. The days that Jenelle pitched to the Public Safety Committee was December 5th, or December 6th, 2023.
- vii. CB 9 Member Zlati informed us that Hannukah starts December 7, 2023, and because there are candles lit for seven days straight there are a lot of fire safety issues surrounding such holiday. As a result, she requested that such Fire Safety event be held prior to the start of Hannukah.

IV. Public Comment Period

- a. Resident Member Zeng brought up that the Vital Brooklyn project was not properly addressing the community's concerns in reference to the public safety components of such project. It came to Zeng's attention that the residents of the community felt that the Vital Brooklyn project was pretty much glazing over the public safety concerns of the community and was not properly addressing such issues. Zeng motioned for the Public Safety concerns of Vital Brooklyn to be brought to the General Board's attention, so that they could get Vital Brooklyn to properly address public safety
- b. Guest Theresa brought up an issue that was going on by Ebbets Field, on Bedford and Sullivan, whether the underground sewer system failed and caused there to be a huge manhole in the middle of the street. Theresa wanted efforts to be made by the city to address this issue more appropriately.
- c. Guest Michelle echoed Zeng's concerns regarding the Vital Brooklyn project. Michelle also stated that she wanted clearer answers in regard to the public safety components of such project.
- d. Guest Rod H. suggested there should be interim traffic device placed in the area where the construction is being done to fix with the large manhole. But because the construction may fix the problem within the next 30-days, there may be no need for placement of an interim traffic device, as it will take over 30-days for approval and placement.
- e. Guest Rod H. requested that in reference to the Vital Brooklyn project, a Detailed Security Plan should be provided to the community so that residents can understand how

such project will deal with exigent circumstances that may arise both inside and outside of the Vital Brooklyn project, by the residents which such project will house.

- f. Asst. District Manager, M. Hilton made clear that we could not vote on anything due to the fact that we did not have quorum
 - g. Resident Member Zeng asked Committee Chair Jenelle if she could keep his Vital Brooklyn public safety concerns in mind so that such issues he tried to motion can be properly voted on once such committee has quorum, especially at the specified time such committee will come together to vote on the SLA Applications. Jenelle confirmed that she would do so, and both Zeng and Jenelle agreed that it would be a good idea to put such issues in the Public Safety group chat that was formed by Jenelle to address such issues.
 - h. CB 9 Member Yisroel L. reminded Committee Chair Jenelle to admit him in the Public Safety group chat, in which Jenelle confirmed that she would.
- V. Adjournment
- a. Motion to adjourn at 8:07pm

Minutes Submitted By: Zeng Jean-Jacques

Date When Submitted to Board Office: Tuesday, November 14, 2023