

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225
Public Safety Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 12, 2023
Meeting ID: 824 1641 1153

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

Attendance (Community Resident Members): Jean-Jacques Zeng; Carmen L. Martinez

Absent (Community Resident Members): Ronald Banks; Victor M. Sanchez-Lloveras Campolieto

Absent (Board Members): None

Guests: Maxine Barnes; Cheryl Bernard; Regina Clarke; Rod Herbert; Nattawan R. Hung; Frank Palillo; June Persaud; Theresa Westerdahl

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting convened at 7:00pm
- II. Appointment of Committee Secretary
 - a. Jean-Jacques Zeng appointed
- III. SLA Application Review
 - a. Quincie’s Hospitality, Inc. d/b/a The Green Room – 408 Rogers Avenue, NY 11225 (Lefferts Avenue/Sterling Street); Application for new Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider License
 - i. 2,00 Square feet; Max. Occupancy of 60 people
 - ii. 12 tables and 32 seats
 - iii. Anticipated Jazz and spoken word events
 - b. Cecil & Siah, Inc. d/b/a Golden Crust Franchise – 823-825 Franklin Avenue (Eastern Parkway/Union Street); Application for new Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider License
 - i. 23-year tenant of current space, who was offered the next-door space by landlord
 - ii. Will allow customers to purchase food and consume onsite
 - iii. Small event space for events, such as karaoke, etc.
 - c. Committee Vote
 - i. Quincie’s Hospitality – Unanimous vote
 - ii. Cecil & Siah, Inc. – 6 yes, 1 abstention
- IV. External Committee Communication Discussion
 - a. Jenelle discussed an external communication method outside of the actual Public Safety Community Board Meetings, via WhatsApp, that could be used to empower free flowing conversations on a daily basis for the Public Safety

- b. Interested members should share their contact information with the District office
 - c. The committee would not be restricted to addressing Public Safety issues only once a month.
- V. Engagement for the year
- a. Jenelle brought up the topic of community events to be held on Fire Safety with FDNY Community Affairs, to share tips with the community on being safe. Jenelle recommended that the site that should be used is the Harry Silver Co-Ops located at 810 Midwood St, Brooklyn, NY 11203 (between Schenectady and Utica).
 - b. More Community engagement with the NYPD
 - i. Community Board/Committee wanting Comp Stat from the NYPD and the physical appearance of the NYPD to the Public Safety meetings. Mia Hilton stated that Sgt. Baratta, and Officer Connors were the ones who were typically assigned to the meeting
 - c. Carmen M. mentioned that she wants an event about fraud prevention
 - d. Cheryl B. requests that we start teaching communities to start Block Watcher Programs
- VI. Cannabis Dispensary License discussion
- a. Handling Cannabis Dispensary applications are something that is new to the Public Safety Committee, and they are regulated by the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM). Jenelle said that she will bring questions to the District Office because this process is so new.
 - b. Tara W. went to the meeting for the OCM. She said that the other Community Boards were overwhelmed with applications, with one Community Board receiving 60 applications
 - c. Mia H. clarified that to date, CB9 had only received two applications. She also said that she would circulate the paperwork that was available to her with the Community Board Members, so that they can educate and familiarize themselves with the applications
 - d. Israel L. asked if anyone knew when the next OCM meeting was, but he wasn't given an answer. He made clear that he doesn't think that we should quickly approve Cannabis Licenses
 - e. Mia H. informed the Community Board that a "NO" vote from the Community Board doesn't stop a Cannabis application from moving forward to the State level and getting approved.
 - f. Mia H. also informed us the importance of reporting illegal Cannabis shops that are currently operating in the community. A Cannabis shop that is operating illegally today, cannot pop up tomorrow as a legal Cannabis shop. This is why it is important to report illegally operating shops. This will cause the location to be flagged so that it cannot be legalized at a later date.
 - g. Zoom User (identified as Michelle) voiced her concerns over marijuana smokers and Cannabis shops. She is clearly against it. Michelle also wanted to know the hours that these Cannabis shops would be operating, but Mia H. informed Michelle that such information wasn't yet known, as they are illegal operations
 - h. Regina C. asked for limits on the amount of Cannabis shops within a defined area and zoning regulations for dispensaries around school.

- i. Maxine B. voiced concerns of illegal dispensaries, specifically Nostrand and Empire, that was selling marijuana to kids. She wanted to know what can be done by the Board to immediately close these shops selling drugs to kids.
 - i. Mia Hilton informed Ms. Barnes that we have to address elected officials such as NYS Senator Zellnor Myrie and NYS Assemblyman Brian Cunningham, in addition to concentrated efforts from the local schools, principals and the PTA

- VII. Community Concerns
 - a. Cheryl B. spoke about the traffic light issue that existed on Winthrop and Troy. Mia H. informed Cheryl that this was a DOT issue
 - i. Carmen M. informed Cherie that the issue she was expressing about the traffic light was to be directed to the Transportation Committee.

- VIII. Follow-up
 - a. Jenelle and Mia said that they would provide the secretary information for the WhatsApp committee group in the morning and contact email to submit the meeting minutes

- IX. Adjournment
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm