



*The City of New York  
Borough of Queens*



Chairman, Alvin Warshaviak

Community Board 8  
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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

**Liquor License Committee Meeting**

**Applicant:** Jamaica 153 Corp. d/b/a Riko  
**Address:** 153-37 Hillside Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432

**Applicant:** Cheap Shots NY LLC  
**Address:** 149-05 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY 11367

**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2016  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Community Board 8 Office  
197-15 Hillside Avenue  
Hollis, NY 11423

**Michael Hannibal, *Liquor License Committee Chair***

**Board Members:** Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, James Gallagher, Jr., Robert Harris, Tammy Osherov, Steven Sadofsky, and Mohammed Tohin.

**Also in attendance:** District Manager Marie Adam-Ovide, and Joseph Marziliano, CB8 Staff, Community Affairs Police Officer Peter Capozzi, Jessenia Burgos of Riko, Argilio Rodriguez of Riko, Louis Abreu of Cheap Shots, Kerry Katsortis, Esq., Eva Ruiz of Cheap Shots, Anthony Lemma representing Assemblyman David Weprin and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, and Yolanda Delacruz Gallagher representing the Fresh Meadows Tenants Association.

Committee Chairperson Michael Hannibal called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. This was followed by self-introductions of all Board Members and staff.

**Purpose:**

There are two items on the agenda. The first is an application for a Wine and Beer License from Jamaica 153 Corp. d/b/a Riko. The second item on the agenda is a renewal application for Cheap Shots. The Committee will also discuss recent events that have occurred near NYC Cloud 9 Corporation.

**Jamaica 153 Corp. d/b/a Riko** – A list of seven questions were given to the applicant ahead of time. There could be more but these are the basic questions.

**1. What type of establishment will this be?**

**Ans.:** It will be a Restaurant. This will be our fourth of these restaurants throughout New York City. There are two in Sunnyside and one in Chelsea.

**2. What is the maximum occupancy of the location? Do you have your Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) with you today?**

**Ans.:** The Certificate of Occupancy for this location is pending.

**3. Have you received or are in the process of receiving the Certificate of Occupancy?**

**Ans.:** The SLA allows for either the submission of either a C of O or a letter of no objection. We were planning to go the route of a letter of no objection to fulfill compliance. (*Public Assembly Permit is not required*). The maximum occupancy is about 35 people. We have about ten tables with total seating of about 16 people. Some of the tables seat two people and some seat more.

**4. What will be the hours of operation?**

**Ans.:** Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to Midnight. We will have light background music but this will be a family establishment.

**5. How do you intend to prevent underage drinking?**

**Ans.:** The wait staff is instructed to check I.D.'s before serving any alcoholic drinks to any patrons.

**6. What security measures will be taken? (for bars only)**

This is a family oriented restaurant with no bar and an early closing time. It is not a place that is meant to require any heavy security.

**7. How do you intend to maintain cleanliness in front of your establishment (i.e. smokers)?**

**Ans.:** It is not generally a place where people would smoke outside because it is not a bar in any sense. An ashtray can be placed outside and it is rare people would hang out outside. It is just not that kind of establishment.

Chairman Hannibal stated that all official questions have been asked and answered. He opened the floor for discussion.

**Carolann Foley-** You are saying it does not warrant an ashtray on the outside. First of all alcohol invites a cigarette. This is why we as a community are asking that you place ashtrays outside your establishment. I would also like to point out that you are part of the 107<sup>th</sup> NYPD Precinct. The Community Council has monthly meetings there that we encourage you to attend. Our Special Operations Lieutenant is very active with our local merchants and bar/grill businesses. I will give you his contact information so that you may work with the community.

**Robert Harris-** Are your other establishments plain restaurants like this one? **Answer: Yes.**

**Kevin Forrestal-** I would agree strongly that you put an ashtray outside. It is easy to do.

**Police Officer Capozzi-** Make sure you do not serve to underage persons. You will be tested from time to time.

**Carolann Foley made a motion to approve the Beer and Wine License to a full Liquor License. The motion was seconded by Kevin Forrestal.**

**Board Members who voted in favor:** Michael Hannibal, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, James Gallagher, Jr., Robert Harris, Tammy Osherov, Steven Sadofsky, and Mohammed Tohin

**Board Member who voted against:** None

**Yes 8                      No 0                      Abstained 0**

**Marie Adam-Ovide-** We will write a letter of no objection provided there is no objection from DOB.

**Argilio Rodriguez-** My concern is that Department of Buildings works slowly.

**Marie Adam-Ovide-** I will contact them for you. [Department of Buildings later informed CB8 of no Certificate of Occupancy Objection]

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**Chairman Hannibal-** We are now going to discuss the renewal application for Cheap Shots NY LLC briefly and then call the applicant in for some questioning. There is a petition on file from residents of Parkway Village in protest of the approval of this renewal. There are 19 signatures and they cite many quality of life disturbances.

**Joseph Marziliano-** From the license renewal of Cheap Shots LLC to date, Community Board 8 has no complaints on file.

**Marie Adam-Ovide-** That is true. The complaints made in this petition are the same that were made during their last renewal.

**Carolann Foley-** In fact, this is a nearly identical petition to the one we received last time. Since the time of their last renewal this establishment has become a true asset to our community. They have gone out of their way to work with the NYPD and help the underprivileged by donating food during the Holidays. It is my understanding they have no violations or complaints from the NYPD.

**Officer Capozzi-** In the entire year of 2015 there were only ten 311 calls for loud music. There was one 911 which used that address to call in a car accident, and another where someone walking by fell and had back pain. They were tested three times for underage drinking and passed each inspection. Cheap Shots passed the MARCH (Multi Agency Response to Community Hotspots) Operation with no summonses.

*The applicant was brought in and introduced to the Committee.*

**Chairman Hannibal-** Cheap Shots LLC is applying for the renewal of their full Liquor License. The establishment is listed as a tavern and cocktail lounge located at 149-05 Union Turnpike. We found ourselves in a situation where we received a petition from the community that had concerns about Cheap Shots in the neighborhood. I would like to open up the discussion to the Committee to ask questions.

**Tamara Oshero-** In the past I can recall hearing that the establishment was used as a meet up spot for motorcycle gangs. Can you speak to the truth of that? **Answer:** That is untrue. I had some employees that rode motorcycles and so did I. I have since sold mine so now you don't see bikes out there. We did not advertise motorcycle meet ups.

**Robert Harris-** In the past there was always problems of noise as well as public urination. Do you still have those problems? **Answer:** I added more bouncers and also stood outside to monitor that area from time to time. I also check with the precinct from time to time to see how we are doing in terms of complaints.

**James Gallagher Jr. -** Are you still open until 4 a.m. seven days a week? **Answer:** On the weekends we are open until 4 a.m. I know in the past you had asked for an extension on New Year's Eve, is that true? Answer: I had asked for that extension two years ago because New Year's Eve is my birthday for friends and family, but now we don't bother.

**Steven Sadofsky-** I just wanted to reiterate that since they have been in the community they have really been an asset.

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**Carolann Foley-** I want to commend you on working with us and the NYPD in doing the right thing. We see the statistics that were provided to us and I want to thank you for your participation in helping to feed a lot of hungry families on Thanksgiving Eve. I know your community work has been not because you wanted a star for it, but because it is genuine. I advise this Board to renew their license and welcome them into our community.

**Carolann Foley moved to accept the renewal application of a full Liquor License for Cheap Shots LLC, seconded by Steven Sadofsky.**

Board Members who voted in favor: **Michael Hannibal, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, James Gallagher, Jr., Robert Harris, Tammy Oshero, Steven Sadofsky, and Mohammed Tohin**

Board Member who voted against: **None**

**Yes 8                                      No 0                                      Abstained 0**

**Chairman Hannibal-** Just as a point of reference, when we see a petition like this from some residents, we want to call you in so that way we can discuss it with you and give you a voice as well. Not only that, but if the community comes back to us to ask us why we take the actions we do, we can tell them that we did ask the questions. We make sure to have a fair hearing and not prejudice. Welcome to the community again.

***Chairman Hannibal opened up the discussion to the Committee regarding the reports of a shooting at Cloud 9 Hookah Lounge***

**Carolann Foley-** I spoke to Lieutenant Robinson at length about Cloud 9. This establishment has had three major incidents occur there or involved them in the last three years. As we all know there was a shooting again at Cloud 9 recently. Cloud 9 is not a bad place. They do not have a bad establishment or clientele but there are unfortunate incidents when groups from outside our community come in from Bed-Stuy and other areas with thirty people doing drugs. Then when they get here they smoke hookah and drink and get out of control. The NYPD has told us the establishment has been 100% cooperative. They do not believe this establishment is a problem. I would recommend we reach out to Cloud 9 and bring them in to discuss some of our concerns.

**Chairman Hannibal-** When is their renewal up?

**Officer Capozzi-** I was just over there and I believe it is up next year. The shooting did not happen inside their establishment but down the corner.

**James Gallagher Jr. -** Was the previous shooting ever resolved?

**Officer Capozzi-** That homicide is still under investigation.

**Chairman Hannibal-** I think that is a good idea and we will reach out to them and call them in to speak about some of our concerns as they continue to try to do the right thing in protecting themselves and the community.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Marziliano, CB8 Staff  
February 11, 2016*