

District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor—New York, NY 10027 T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

December 2, 2015

Resolution: Support of the Liquor License Application of Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC, d/b/a "Blujeen", 2143 Frederick Douglass Blvd., New York, NY 10026.

WHEREAS, the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) has jurisdiction to issue on-premises licenses according to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws, and is responsible for enforcing those laws; and

WHEREAS, Manhattan Community Board 10 reviews all new applications and offers guidance to the SLA about the potential impact of a license on public safety, quality of life and economic development in our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Community Boards, as part of their due diligence process, review an applicant's ownership and funding; floor plans of the proposed location, food and beverage to be served, operational aspects of the restaurant/bar or lounge, price points, employee hiring processes, employee wages and benefits, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2014, Manhattan Community Board 10 passed a Resolution approving and application of Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC for a Wine and Beer License for its establishment known as "Blujeen" located at 2143 Frederick Douglass Blvd. New York, NY 10026 (between 115th – 116th Streets); and

WHEREAS, in April 2015 the SLA granted the application for a Wine and Beer License and Applicant has been operating Blujeen since that time pursuant to said license; and

WHEREAS, Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC, is now applying for a full Liquor License for Blujeen; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant's manager and chef, Lance Knowling, appeared before Community Board 10's Economic Development Committee on November 12, 2015 and presented the following information:

- 1. Mr. Knowling has been managing Blujeen since April 2015. Mr. Knowling has worked in the restaurant industry for 22 years.
- 2. Blujeen serves "modern comfort food," and will be open for lunch and dinner 7 days a week, and will serve brunch on weekends. Hour of operation are 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm on weekdays and Noon to Midnight on Friday, Saturday and Saturday.

- **3.** Since opening, Blujeen has not had any SLA or other violations regarding its service of wine and beer and has had no incidents of police activity.
- **4.** The restaurant's price points are: appetizers \$5.00 \$14.00 and entrees \$15.00 \$22.00.
- **5.** Applicant has obtained a 5-year lease, with a 5-year option, for the premises.
- **6.** The restaurant seats 40 patrons at tables, with 10 additional seats at the bar.
- 7. The restaurant's main entrance, interior space and bathrooms are wheelchair and disabled accessible.
- **8.** The restaurant provides recorded background music only and does not offer live music or DJs.
- **9.** Applicant is in the process of installing sound proofing in Blujeen at an estimated cost of \$30,000.
- **10.** The Applicant plans to employ 10 workers: a chef, assistant chef, cooks, dishwashers, wait staff and bartenders. Applicant strives to hire its employees from the Community, and currently 75% of the employees reside in Harlem and 24% reside in the Bronx.
- **11.** Applicant does not intent to alter its methods of operation, other than to serve liquor in addition to wine and beer.
- **12.** Applicant is is member of Harlem Park 2 Park and has provided community assistance to Harlem United, the Community Food Bank and Columbia University, the Harlem Activities Educational Fund and Autism Speaks.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted a petition of support signed by neighboring residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted letters of support for this application from its next-door neighbor, Harlem Shambles, and St. Stephen Community A.M.E. Church, the applicant's landlord; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee voted without objection 10-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstentions to support this application;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on December 2, 2015 the Manhattan Borough Community Board 10 supports the Liquor License application of Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC with a vote of 30 in favor, 1 opposed and 0 abstention.