



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

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District Manager

December 3, 2014

Resolution: Support of the Wine and Beer 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, Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC, is applying for a Wine and Beer License for a proposed establishment to be known as “Blujeen” located at 2143 Frederick Douglass Blvd. New York, NY 10026 (between 115th – 116th Streets); and

WHEREAS, the Applicant’s manager and chef, Lance Knowling, appeared before Community Board 10’s Economic Development Committee on November 13, 2014 and presented the following information:

1. Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC’s sole shareholder is Victor Newman. The establishment will be managed by Lance Knowling, who has worked in the restaurant industry for 21 years. Mr. Knowling owned his own restaurant and catering business in New Jersey for 12 years and has owned a restaurant design and consulting business for 4 ½ years.
2. “Blujeen” will serve “modern comfort food,” and will be open for lunch and dinner 7 days a week, and will serve brunch on weekends. Hour of operation will be noon to 11:00 pm Sunday to Thursday and 11:00 am to Midnight on Friday and Saturday.
3. The restaurant’s price points food will be: appetizers \$5.00 – \$14.00 and entrees \$15.00 - \$22.00. Wine will be \$8.00 – \$14.00 per glass and \$35 - \$120 per bottle. Craft beer will be \$5.00 – \$7.00.
4. Applicant has obtained a 5-year lease, with a 5-year option, for the premises.

5. The restaurant will seat 40 patrons at tables, with 10 additional seats at the bar.
6. The restaurant's main entrance, interior space and bathrooms are wheelchair and handicapped accessible.
7. The restaurant will provide background music only.
8. The Applicant plans to employ 10 workers: a chef, assistant chef, cooks, dishwashers, wait staff and bartenders. Employees will be hired from the Harlem community. Mr. Knowling has been working on construction at the premises, and has already hired local residents to work in the restaurant.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted a petition of support signed by 15 neighboring residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted letters of support 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 9-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstentions to support this application;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on December 3, 2014 the Manhattan Borough Community Board 10 supports the Wine and Beer License application of Indigo Kitchen Harlem, LLC with a vote of **27** in favor, **4** opposed and **0** abstentions.