



The City of New York

Queens Community Board 11

Serving the Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston, Hollis Hills
Little Neck and Oakland Gardens

Michael Budabin **Chairperson** / Joseph Marziliano **District Manager**

To: All Board Members
From: Jack Fried
Date: March 10, 2021
Re: Public Safety and Licensing Committee

On Thursday, March 4, 2021 the CB11 Public Safety and Licensing Committee held a meeting to discuss two 30-Day Advanced Notices to the SLA and Asian Hate Crime.

Present

Committee Members

Michael Budabin, Board Chair
Christine Haider, 1st Vice Chair
Henry Euler, 3rd Vice Chair
Adriana Aviles
Rosemarie Giudice
Eileen Miller
Mohan Jethwani
Stephan Popa
Stephen Pivawer

CB11 Staff

Joseph Marziliano, District Manager
Christina Coutinho, Community Associate

Mr. Fried opened the meeting by introducing the first applicant, Neptune Diner, located at 35-01 Bell Blvd. This applicant is seeking a Wine, Beer, and Cider License with the NYS Liquor Authority. The applicant owns two other diners, one in Astoria and one in Brooklyn. The hours of operation will be from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, Sunday through Thursday and 7:00 AM to 1:00 AM, Friday and Saturday. There will be no live music. Maximum capacity is 130 persons; there will be seating service only, no bar. The outside lights will be turned off one hour after closing. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of granting a NYS Liquor License for Wine, Beer and Cider.

The second applicant is seeking a Full On-Premises Liquor License for a Mexican restaurant located at 213-41 39 Avenue (the former site of Aperitif Bistro). Trade name to be determined. The applicant owns eight other restaurants, seven in NYC and one in Astoria.

The hours of operation will be from 11:00 AM to 12:00 AM, Sunday through Thursday and 11:00 AM to 2:00 AM, Friday and Saturday. The first floor is 3300 sq. ft. with a maximum capacity of 130 persons. The second floor is 2000 sq. ft. with a maximum capacity of 30 persons. There will be a bar on each floor. No live music. The second floor will be used for catering. Mr. Euler suggested valet parking. The Committee recommended the front patio doors be closed at 10:00 PM. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of granting a NYS On-Premises Liquor License with the condition that the front patio doors close at 10:00 PM daily.

The next discussion was regarding Asian hate crime. Mr. Jethwani asked what are the police are doing regarding Asian hate crime? Mr. Budabin suggested a letter to local Council Members asking from a Citywide perspective as to what is exactly being done, i.e., What is the protocol measures that are in place? What are the NYPD's abilities in this matter? What can the administration do? He suggested asking an elected official to speak at the April general meeting. Mr. Budabin discussed a movement in solidarity, i.e., press conference. Mr. Pivawer stated that all hate crimes should be addressed.

Discussion ensued regarding the action the NYPD can take on the matter. Mr. Fried suggested that laws against hate crimes be strengthened. Mr. Budabin said a lot is put on the NYPD. He suggested a letter be sent local Council Members asking what the City is doing about this. There are several government outlets that could give input, i.e., community affairs, NYPD, public affairs. Ms. Aviles stated that there is a NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force. It was suggested to invite a member of the NYPD to a general meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding a press conference to address this matter and to show support. Mr. Budabin suggested contacting neighboring Community Boards. Mr. Marziliano suggested forwarding a statement to the press and copying local elected officials. Mr. Budabin asked if going to the press is appropriate at committee level or would the full Board need to approve? Mr. Marziliano said there is no controversy, this matter is regarding a crime. Mr. Budabin said that is a reasonable approach and since time is of the essence, the Board will be advised.

Mr. Budabin gave several bullet points that in his view should be included on the letter: Asian hate crime should be condemned, we support the City in responding strongly towards this matter, we want to help, we believe promoting a culture of inclusion and diversity, Queens is a shining example. It should also include that all hate crimes are unacceptable but given the recent rash of Asian hate crime, what is City government doing to improve this? We stand in solidarity. The draft should be sent to CB 7, 8 and 13: if they approve, forward to local elected officials and send a statement to the press. Discussion ensued regarding that the City is not acting strong enough on this matter. A motion was made to draft a letter by Mr. Pivawer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Popa. Mr. Pivawer asked if the full Board should review the letter. Mr. Budabin suggested mentioning the letter in the weekly digest and if a Member has suggestions, they can respond. Ms. Aviles suggested the Board get together and read the letter at a press conference. Discussion ensued as to the best way to forward the message. A vote was taken, and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of forwarding a letter.

The meeting adjourned.