



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

SHATIC MITCHELL
District Manager

Economic Development, Technology & Communication Committee
Thursday, March 11, 2021 - 6:30 PM

Hon. Shanelle Washington, Chair
Hon. Jennifer Prince, Vice Chair

Minutes

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began at 6:35 pm. The Chair reviewed the agenda and encouraged non-committee members from CB 10 to fill-out the form for communicating eco dev and technology initiatives they would like to be involved in. Following the meeting there was a meeting on basics of the stock market.

Presentations

There were no presentations for the meeting.

Elected Official Representation

There were no elected official presentations.

SLA Applicants

1. [CANTINA TAQUERIA & TEQUILA BAR](#) is a (RENEWAL) SLA Applicant, received on 2/16/2021 14:25:5. This business is located [329 LENOX AVENUE](#) - STORE FRONT LEFT - NEW YORK, NY 10027.

There was not a representative present for the meeting or discussion on the renewal.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

2. PB Brasserie is a (NEW) SLA Applicant, received on 2/17/2021 20:35:09. This business is located [60 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027](#). John Lynch represented the applicant for the meeting. PB Brasserie will be located in a new building on 125th Street. The building is 17-stories, with a very large commercial footprint on the ground floor. “PB” stands for Ponty Bistro and is the third restaurant for the owner of Ponty Bistro and Renaissance Harlem. The owner has never had any issues with any of his liquor licenses. The space will be up to 4,000 square feet. The landlord will be fitting the space to PB Brasserie’s specifications. The proposed opening is no earlier than the end of 2021. There will not be a sidewalk café or outdoor presence.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

3. [SKDL Corp d/b/a Lido](#) is a (RENEWAL) SLA Applicant, received on 3/1/2021 13:16:03. This business is located [2162-68 Frederick Douglass Boulevard](#). The owner Susannah Koteen attended the meeting. Lido has been open 10 years and was closed and did not have delivery and pick-up. The renewal from SLA was not received until Lido reopened. Susannah thanked CB10 for the 30-day waiver. They opened a sister restaurant Bixi at 2164 Frederick Douglass Boulevard.

There were 13 complaints recorded by 311. Susannah said this is the first time she is hearing about noise complaints in the 10 years. There was a time that a neighbor did say that people from the neighborhood were hanging out in the outdoor structures Lido had recently built last year. Lido put up signs and locked the area up. That is the only thing she has heard as far as noise complaints. They take noise complaints very seriously, but this is the first they are hearing about them. Lido is usually closed by 11 or 11:30 pm.

The renewal application states that Lido does not have community service or partnering with community organizations. Susannah corrected that she is President of the Meals for Good in Harlem that donates food in Harlem.

During the questions and comments, John Lynch shared that a former Lido bartender is now a part-owner and Manager of Bixi next door. A tenant from the building said the landlord spoke to Susannah about the noise complaints. Susannah reiterated the concern from neighbors across the street, regarding community members gathering in the outdoor space created by Lido. Susannah said she did not remember speaking to the landlord about noise complaints.

The complaints are from May 2020 to December 2020; they were not noise complaints. The 311 complaints were for social distancing, outdoor dining conditions, and ADA compliance.

Board Member Kevin Bitterman suggested having an open call to address and review the Economic Development Committee's process for applications.

A tenant asked about the accountability for the noise complaints and clarified that Lido's employees after hours make noise in the back area. The 311 complaints were for an inaccessible area to the public behind the restaurant. The Chair, Shanelle explained that it is not unusual for the restaurant to be unaware of noise complaints. Shanelle shared that the representation for the restaurant need to share that information with the owner.

Chair of the Board, Cicely Harris encouraged the District Manager, Shatic to share how the noise complaints are gathered and how restaurants can access the public 311 information prior their application renewals.

The complaints from 311 can inadvertently get registered to the wrong address. A tenant shared that they had called several times about noise complaints for Lido, but was not sure what address was recorded by 311.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

4. [Blue Ocean Group Inc., Cafe Amrita](#) is a (RENEWAL) SLA Applicant, received on 3/1/2021 14:22:06. This business is located [301 W. 110th Street, New York, NY, 10026](#). Robert Song attended the meeting on behalf of Café Amrita. Café Amrita has been open since 2003. The past year has been a struggle and Mr. Song shared that he is six months behind on rent and struggling to stay afloat. They applied for the PPP loan and is waiting for the second PPP and is working on a plan with their landlord.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

5. [Soha 116 Restaurant Corp, Harlem Tavern](#) is a (RENEWAL) SLA Applicant, received on 2/12/2021 11:12:50. This business is located [301 W 116th Street AKA 2153 8th Avenue NY, NY 10027](#).

There was no representative present for the meeting.

There were 2 noise complaints for loud music/party and banging/pounding from June 2019.

Committee Members expressed concerns about social-distancing at the restaurant.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

6. [Atheras LLC, Sugar Monk](#) is a (RENEWAL) SLA Applicant, received on 3/4/2021 12:41:21. This business is located [2292 Frederick Douglass Blvd, New York, NY 10027](#). Simon Jutras, co-owner of Sugar Monk attended the meeting. Sugar Monk has been open less than two years. They are a very small establishment and were able to stay open through the pandemic. They are not a restaurant and are more like a cocktail bar and had to be innovative and expand their options. Their license ends at the end of April. During the questions and comments, Committee Member Dr. Smith asked about how the business was doing pre-March 2020 and how the business pivoted during the pandemic. Mr. Jutras shared about their extensive mixology; January and February 2020 were their best months. The pandemic meant they pivoted to drinks to-go and created more food. They did not have enough money to build seating outside and their outside space on Frederick Douglass is a narrow sidewalk space. They have a tent and heaters; they are happy to now have 25% in-door seating. They were not yet able to execute the educational component of the business. The pandemic happened 9 months after their opening. They plan to have classes and to reach out to the community. They joined Harlem Park to Park and are giving a percentage of cocktail's profits to the Harlem School of the Arts.

There were zero 311 complaints.

[SLA Application](#)

[CB10 SLA 30-Day Advance Notice Form](#)

Vote: PASSED

District Needs Statement

Please fill-out the form to share initiatives that should be included in the District Needs Statement

Community Comments and Concerns

Marina Franklin – The community concern is regarding the restaurant Bixi. Mrs. Franklin lives directly above Bixi and the noise is occurring behind the restaurant and has lived in the community since 1997. When the noise complaints issues have occurred it wasn't always clear where they were coming from The noise was coming from an area only accessibly to Bixi and Lido restaurants. Bixi had customers eating in the back garden space. Mrs. Franklin has asked the landlord to discuss the issue with Susannah several times. The noise occurs at random; it stopped for two months and then returned in February 2021. A sound barrier was created but the noise can still be heard. There are tenants who have moved and

are moving due to the noise issue. Mrs. Franklin has been sick for two months since the construction of the barrier. The tenants have called 311 a lot and don't know why it is not showing. A police officer reached-out to a tenant due to the volume of calls.

Another tenant talked about the cigarette smoke and loud noise from Bixi. The tenant called Bixi repeatedly about the cigarette smoke because the smoke caused an asthma attack. The tenant has spoken to Susanna a lot about the issue and has called and emailed Bixi and Lido. The tenant said during the summer Lido was flouting all the Covid 19 regulations. The building's egress was blocked by the outdoor dining. The tenant asked Susanna two days prior to please put on a mask. The tenant has never received a response from an email from Lido. The tenant has to move because it is un-livable.

The Chair, Shanelle suggested organizing a meditation between Lido and the tenants. Shanelle asked that Shatic, the District Manager reach out to Lido, the Frederick Douglass Business Alliance, Senator Brian Benjamin's office, and the tenants. The item will be a voting item for the Community Board meeting in April.

Susannah asked to respond to the concerns. Bixi is closed every night at 11 pm and the back yard is closed at 10 pm. They have put a cover over the back patio to mitigate sound complaints. The landlord is working on the fire escapes which might have contributed to the dust.

- Old Business/New Business
[Harlem AI: AfroTech](#)
Chair, Shanelle is working to get panelists.
[W&D SOHA or NAH](#)

The Chair, reminded committee members to share ideas and offer support for event ideas.

Julius Tajidin asked about reviewing his resolution and wanted to get back on the agenda. Chair Shanelle asked that he contact the District Manager to get on the agenda for a future meeting. The vote would be as to whether the committee would like to take on the points of the resolution and make it out own. Chair Shanelle asked that the 125th Street BID be invited to the meeting and Julius suggested the 28th precinct.

Announcements

Board Member Donna Gil asked about the update for the sidewalk outdoor dining structures. There is very little community input to the sidewalk cafés and structures. Committee Member Deneane is working with Shatic to gather the information from Frederick Douglass Boulevard when they were designing their outdoor structures. Chair of the Board, Cicely Harris shared that there should be a presentation soon from DOT – they will be going to the Transportation Committee.

Abena Smith shared a data entry opportunity as the Javitz Center for \$27 hour for 12-hour shifts. Abena will share the additional employment opportunities with Shatic.

- Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm