



**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 21st, 2023
6:30 P.M.**

I. Call to Order

- Roll Call Attendance taken by Vice Chair B. Weinberg
- Meeting called to attention at 6:58 PM (have not achieved quorum yet)
- Meeting called to order at 7:26 PM by Chair Edwards (quorum achieved).

II. Adopt Agenda

- Motion to adopt the agenda by C. Thompson. Seconded by D. McIntosh Brown.
- Agenda has been adopted by members present

III. Adopt Minutes (11/16/23)

- Motion to adopt the minutes by C. Thompson. Seconded by A. Sadeghi.
- Agenda has been adopted by members present

IV. Reports:

1. Chair..... Hon. Victor Edwards

- In-person attendance is needed to have quorum and vote on action items
- 1727 Amsterdam Avenue (145th Street) - plans to be demolished
 - Met with Bowen Center on Monday 12/18
 - Heritage Health will be moving down the street temporarily
 - New plans call for supportive housing
- PS125 Playground
 - Ribbon cutting event was attended by Chair Edwards and Treasurer McIntosh Brown
 - Community eagerly awaiting opening for use
- Cannabis Applications
 - Under review, CB9 is currently coming up with criteria to ask applicants. Reviewing NYS OCM guidelines.
- Big Thanks to Eutha, Madison, and Hakeel for all their hard work and support.
- Thanks to vendors that provided food for tonight - Dinosaur BBQ, Westside Marker, Oasis, and La Esquina de Sazon
- Please take a look at the CB9 Newsletter
- We are trying to get Palante Legal Services to help every Thursday at the district office

2. Treasurer..... Hon. Deirdre McIntosh-Brown

- Thanked everyone for attending budget hearings on 10/17
- Report is included in the packet

3. District Manager..... Eutha Prince

- Report is included in the packet
 - Volunteers to count the homeless are needed. Please contact the District Office if you are interested in helping out
 - Thank you to the gracious people helping us serve food tonight
4. WHDC..... Hon. Patricia Watler-Johnson
 - Membership for WHDC Board of Directors - send application to jobs@whdc.org
 - Grantees for 2023 were posted on the website
 - Grantees for 2024 will be selected in the Spring of 2024
 - West Harlem Use Assistance taking back the skills center
 - Financial statement is available on whdc.org
 - Attended a no-alcohol sip and paint event
 - Donated tickets to seniors to see Rocketts at Radio City Music Hall
 5. UMEZ..... Hon. Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas
 - She is not present to give a report
 6. 125th Street BID..... Hon. Ken Miles
 - He is not present at this time to give an update
 7. Manhattan Borough President's (Mark Levine) Office - Minah Whyte
 - Office helped to give away over 10,000 pounds of food to New Yorkers
 - Attended various holiday celebrations and tree lightings.
 - Keisha Sutton James attended PS125 Playground opening.
 - Thank you for attending the training series.
 - Last week, Public Hearings regarding open meetings law.
 - Capital Project Spending - need feedback from the community.
 - Open fundamentals program (Rangel Initiative) happening at City College for 18+
 - Minah will be starting as District Manager for CB10 as of 1/22/2024.
 - A big thank you to Minah for all her hard work and support.

V. Public Session/Public Hearing:

1. Public Session – 3 minutes each Speaker
 - Amit - Oasis (owner)
 - Immigrant from West Africa
 - Diagnosed with Diabetes, worked with his father to treat people as a natural healer
 - Opened Oasis in 2012. Has 3 stores in Harlem
 - He is currently working on opening a Community Center for his customers
2. Elected Officials – 2 questions each
 - Nina Norwood (Congressman Espaillat's Office)
 - Secured \$1 million in Federal Funding for BrotherSisterSoul - to assist young people in our community
 - Secured \$3 billion in Federal Funding for Green Climate Fund for our community
 - Dominicans on the Hill event on 2/7/2024 at Capital's Visitor Center. Reach out to the office to attend
 - Zoya Abbas (Assemblyman Taylor's Office)
 - Office hosting a holiday party tomorrow. Information given to the District Office
 - Please see the office newsletter for any updates.
 - Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday next week

- Mirian Hernandez (Assemblyman O'Donnell's Office)
 - Not present at this time
- Gabriela Carela (Shaun Abreu's Office)
 - Hosted Christmas Toy GiveAway - gave gifts for over 250 kids
 - Reusable Containers Law passed by City Council yesterday
 - Happy Holidays to all

VI. Action Items:

1. Ratification of Letter of Support re: The Cannabis corner education module as well as the other community education and engagement activities;
 - Presented by Co-chair of Cannabis Task Force - M. Hardin Cordero
 - Supporting City College via the Harlem Health Initiative.
 - Focusing on Cannabis equity.
 - Roll Call Vote taken by B. Weinberg
 - i. 25 Yes , 1 - No , 3 - Abstain.
 - ii. Resolution Passes
2. Reso re: 547-551 West 133rd Street; BSA Variance;
 - Presented by Co-Chair of Housing and Land Use - S. Mortensen
 - Need BSA variance. Last variance was 10 years ago.
 - There were concerns regarding cars illegally parked.
 - Affidavit was submitted by the Auto Body Repair Shop Lawyer that it is not them.
 - Chair Edwards asked the NYPD 26th Precinct Captain to enforce double parking on that block.
 - B. Weinberg requests unanimous consent. Motion seconded by J. Martin Green. Motion passes by Unanimous consent. L. Gerson abstains.
 - i. Resolution passes

Liquor License New Application(s) & Retail Permits:

3. Reso re: Amsterdam Craft Cellar Corp; 1739 Amsterdam Ave., NYC 10031;
4. Reso re: Pho Amsterdam, Inc., 1262 B'way, NYC 10027;
5. Reso re: Twin Goat, LLC, 1624 Amsterdam Ave., NYC10031;

T. Lumley requests unanimous consent. Motion seconded by S. Mortensen. Motion passes by Unanimous consent. H. Jason abstains. Resolution(s) passes.

Liquor License Renewal(s):

6. Reso re: Artopolic Café Ltd, 1090 Amsterdam Ave., NYC 10027;
7. Reso re: Kanu Inc., 3628 Broadway, NYC 10031;
8. Reso re: Efthia Rest. Inc., aka Toms Rest., 2880 B'way, NYC 10027

D. McIntosh Brown requests unanimous consent. Motion seconded by J. Martin Green. Motion passes by Unanimous consent. H. Jason abstains. Resolution(s) passes.

VII. Old Business

- Assistant Commissioner Okoti attended meeting late - asking for community feedback
 - i. Will attend the next meeting in 2024.
 - ii. B. Weinberg asked about prior questions - how do interested blocks join the pilot program.
 - iii. J. Adewumi commented that when containers are emptied - fluid from garbage spills on sanitation workers. How can this be addressed?

VIII. New Business

- No new business presented at this time.

IX. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned by Chair Edwards at 8:01 pm.
- Chair Edwards wishes everyone Happy Holidays and asks everyone in attendance to get food and beverages at the back of our meeting space.

Please Note: The next General Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18th, 2024