



Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville, Morningside Heights and Sugar Hill

Cannabis Taskforce (CTF) Meeting

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

MINUTES

Task Force Members

In attendance: Monique Hardin-Cordero (Co-Chair), Shaunte Styles (Co-Chair), and Vanessa Caughman-Smith

Public Members: Leonel Arias (Midnight Moon), and Bailey Jermie

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm

Adopt September Minutes/Notes

Call to Order

Adopt Agenda

Adopt September Minutes/Notes

Presentation: Medical Cannabis – The Potential Health and Tax Benefits

Julien Vincent, Community Liaison from the Office of Cannabis Management presented on the medical cannabis science and regulations, including discussions about the endocannabinoid system and therapeutic uses. Julien also discussed the process of participating in a medical cannabis program and the types of healthcare providers who can certify patients. Monique expressed concern about the lack of medical providers in the CB9 and the need to increase medical cannabis access in their community and the potential benefits it could offer its residents who suffer from chronic conditions.

The presentation also briefly addressed a condition known as cannabis use disorder, which affects a small portion of cannabis users, particularly those at high risk of addiction or taking high doses. He emphasized the importance of consulting a medical professional before using cannabis due to limited research and potential interactions with other medications. Julien also discussed cannabis tolerance, the effects of terpenes, and the differences in how THC and CBD bind to receptors in the body. Leo, a CB9 dispensary owner asked questions about terpenes, cannabinoid ratios, and the popularity of CBD products, which Julien addressed.

Additional topics covered included licensing processes, product safety, and home cultivation rules.

Updates:

OCM: Proximity Correction (Door-to-Door)

Julien extended his time and addressed proximity regulations for dispensaries. OCM will use the door-to-door proximity standard through February 15, 2026.

Old Business

Cannabis tax revenue and potential grant opportunities

The conversation ended with dates in December (see flyer attached) for local CBOs to attend a grant preparedness session and learn about criteria to access cannabis tax funding for local education and programming focused on youth and young adults.

New Business

CB9 Resolution - Cannabis Showcase Event

Our community board submitted a recommendation letter urging OCM to:

- to redefine what “municipality” means across all cities in the state and strengthen the role of Community Boards within the Local Authorization process outlined, and

We also recommend that the final regulations include:

- Mandatory Notification: Require that Community Boards be notified in writing of any proposed Cannabis Showcase Event within their district boundaries prior to municipal authorization.
- Review Period: Establish a defined period (e.g., 30 days) for Community Boards to review and provide advisory input to the municipality or Office of Cannabis Management.
- Transparency and Public Engagement: Encourage municipalities to maintain accessible public records of proposed and approved events to ensure transparency and community trust.

CB9 District Needs Statement for FY 27

The CB9 Needs Statement stressed securing increased funding to

- provide education targeting our youth and young adults, and
- increase awareness about the benefits of medical cannabis for local residents who may suffer from a chronic condition.

Discussion

Topics for 2026 spring conference

Members were asked to think about topic/issues we can address at a spring conference. We will build on our partnership with Columbia University and other local educational institutions in planning for future events that promote cannabis education.

Next Steps

- Julian to send full PPT presentation and the Community Grant Reinvestment Fund flyer to the CB9 office to be shared with the community.
- Community Board to share article about [new diagnosis tied to chronic cannabis use](#)
- Shared District Needs Statement
- Share Resolution letter to OCM

Meeting concludes AT 8:27 PM