



Manhattan Community Board 9

Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville, Morningside Heights and Sugar Hill

Cannabis Task Force

Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6:30 pm

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Members: Hon. Chris Berry; Hon. Daria Hardeman; Co-Chair: Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero Hon. Solomon Prophete; Hon. Carlton Davis; Hon. Deirdre McIntosh; Hon.; Madison Ayala

Guests: Kbee; Johnnie McCann; Vanessa Milu, (CB9 resident); Karl Reynoso (CB9 resident); Shannon Richards; Julia Ross (Columbia Spectator); Rolando Felix; Robert Wilson

MEETING COMMENCED: 6:40 pm

- **Call to Order**
- **Adopt Agenda**
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Enforcement Efforts**
 - Officer Stumer from the 30th precinct explained that enforcing non-licensed cannabis establishments falls under the Office of Cannabis Management and the Sheriff's Department regarding the inspection and confiscation of products from these premises. The NYPD assists the sheriff's department in these efforts.
 - Residents with concerns regarding crowds or illegal/criminal activity can contact 311. If they witness criminal activity, they should call 911. Officer Stumer stressed that complaints must come from the community for these issues to come to their attention.
 - Carlton and several members expressed concerns about the illegal establishments on 144th and Broadway. This establishment was looked at before, but if it is still an area of concern, bring it to CB9's attention, and we will contact Officer Stumer, who will refer the complaint to the appropriate person.
 - Daria expressed concern about drug activity at Montefiore Park (located at 137th Street and Broadway.
 - Officer Stumer suggested we invite the local sheriff to our next meeting.

Additional Comments:

- Solomon shared that we received ten applications for legal dispensaries and will require feedback to help us evaluate and submit comments for these applicants.
- Gotham Buds is Harlem's First licensed cannabis retailer.

- **Presentation:**

Roadmap to Adult-Use Applications - Office of Cannabis Management, *Presenters - Pascale Bernard and Phillip Rumsey*

Highlights:

- NY residents across the state can apply for retail Adult-Use License Types. The plan is to establish five hundred dispensaries across NYS. The application window is October 4th –Dec. 4th. Most of the applications we will probably receive will be retail dispensary and microbusiness applications.
- Community Boards have thirty days to give their advisory opinion to the Cannabis Control Board. They can ask for an additional thirty days (60 days in total) to submit comments/advisory opinion.
- Applicants with a physical location (or control of a location) will notify the Community Board to inform them of their intentions.
- Applicants can apply for a provisional cannabis license while still seeking to secure a physical location.

Enforcement:

- Information about activities that may violate the Cannabis Law can be sent to OCM via email or through our website.: <https://cannabis.ny.gov/report-an-incident>
- Legal establishments will have a sticker

Questions:

- All questions can be sent to AUlicensing@ocm.ny.gov

For more details, please see **attached PowerPoint** and link to the original presentation delivered on October 12, 2023. For access to the recording for this session

Recording link: <https://meetny-broadcast-pilot.webex.com/meetny-broadcast-pilot/ldr.php?RCID=351e1225b6dc13d88a581b13b6958e75>

- **Cannaware:**
 - Advocacy and education on Cannabis – will reschedule for them to join us at the November meeting.
- **Update:**
 - Initial Results: Cannabis Equity Survey - CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy – will schedule for them to join us at the November meeting.
- **MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:31 pm**

Future Meeting Dates: 4th Thursday of the Month (unless there is a holiday)

- Next Meeting, **Thursday, December 28, 2023 @ 6:30 pm**

Submitted by: Monique Hardin-Cordero, Co-Chair, MCB9 Cannabis Task Force