

Community Board 12 Licensing Committee

Minutes, February 11, 2015

Committee Members Present: Cespedes, Diaz, Medina, Peters, Restituyo, Sanchez

Committee Members Excused:

Committee Members Absent:

CB12 Members Present:

CB12 Staff Members Present:

Community Members Present:

A. Welcome and Opening Remarks: Aldemar Diaz, Committee Chair

B. State Liquor Authority *Renewal* Licenses: ☒

On-Premise Liquor License

1. El Mambi Restaurant Corp. - 4181 Broadway at the corner of West 177th Street

Owner/Representative	Raul Acosta
Type of Establishment	Cuban/Dominican Restaurant
Hours of Operation	24 hours
Tables/Chairs	10 chairs
Music	Juke box
Security Cameras	10
Security Personnel	1 on weekends
ADA Compliant?	
Employees	24
Capacity	64
Emergency Exits	2
Restaurant Letter Grade	A, as of May 2014
33rd/34th Precinct	No comment
Community Comments	
Stipulations	
Notes	The owner of the business submitted a questionnaire after voting on the application had been completed.

Committee Vote	Yes: Cespedes, Diaz, Medina, Peters, Restituyo No: 0 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0
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2. 4241 Restaurant Inc., doing business as Reynolds's Café - 4241 Broadway at the corner of West 180th Street

Owner/Representative	Patrick Smith, Representative
Type of Establishment	Tavern
Hours of Operation	Mon-Sat, 8pm-4am; Sun, midnight-4am
Tables/Chairs	24 seats, 3 tables
Music	Juke box
Security Cameras	6
Security Personnel	0
ADA Compliant?	Yes
Employees	4
Capacity	30
Emergency Exits	1
Restaurant Letter Grade	B, as of November 2014
33rd/34th Precinct	No objection
Community Comments	
Stipulations	
Notes	
Committee Vote	Yes: Cespedes, Diaz, Medina, Peters, Restituyo No: 0 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0

3. ICARO Corp. - 400 West 202nd Street between West 215th & 216th Streets

Owner/Representative	Rud Morales, Owner
Type of Establishment	Restaurant, Bar & Lounge
Hours of Operation	3pm-4am
Tables/Chairs	Inside: 66 tables, 184 seats; Outside: 75 seats, per FDNY Letter of No Objection; Total: 259 seats
Music	iPod, Live music once a month, DJ on Fri, Sat & Sun, 8pm-4am
Security Cameras	36
Security Personnel	18
ADA Compliant?	Yes
Employees	80
Capacity	Per certificate of occupancy for indoor space: 300 Including sidewalk café: 540

Emergency Exits	7
Restaurant Letter Grade	N/A
33rd/34th Precinct	Representatives from both Precincts expressed concern regarding the saturation of establishments in this area with On-Premises Liquor licenses open until 4am. They advised that operating this establishment until 4am will place additional strain on existing limited police resources.
Community Comments	
Stipulations	Meet with Councilman Rodriguez; submit a floor plan to the Board office prior to the February General Meeting.
Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This business will open in the spring or summer of 2016. 2. The applicant, Ms. Morales, is a member of the Board's Business Development and Public Safety Committees. 3. The Licensing Committee recommended that the hours of operation be reduced in consideration of the NYPD's objection to the proposed hours, but Ms. Morales declined to revise them. 4. Ms. Morales explained to the Committee that she intends to apply to the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs for a cabaret license (in addition to the license required for the sidewalk café mentioned above). 5. Ms. Morales has made arrangements with a nearby garage for 200 parking spots for patrons of this establishment. 6. The Board approved an application for this establishment in May of 2014. The application was never filed with the SLA, and since then, the corporate name and DBA (and capacity, per number of tables and patrons) have changed. The new corporate name is Night One West, LLC; the previous DBA was Raico. 7. During previous consideration of this application, the 34th Precinct objected, citing concerns regarding traffic congestion and the saturation of liquor licenses in the area. As emphasized by members of the 34th Precinct, this area has rapidly become a nightlife hotspot, given the presence of 4 large-scale venues in the area, and the occurrence of numerous assaults resulting from disputes between patrons of these establishments. 8. As was explained to the applicant, negative votes that arise from the worsening of quality-of-life concerns over time are not to be interpreted as denial of any rights to later applicants that were previously granted to any other applicants.

Committee Vote	Yes: 1 No: 3 Abstain: 2 Not Voting: 0
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C. New Business

1. A question was raised regarding stipulations; how do we bridge the gap between the signing of agreements and their execution? The Community Board is not an enforcement mechanism. The various city and state agencies take over after we discharge our advisory duty to the SLA.
2. Rules for developing areas such as the southern end of 9th/10th Avenue need to be developed so there is a level playing field for all businesses; the agreement governing sidewalk cafes on Dyckman is a model of such an undertaking which our current elected officials might emulate.
3. It was brought to the Committee's attention that speakers are still installed outside Mamajuana, in violation of DCA rules; the Committee will follow up with the owner and/or the DCA, if necessary.
4. Some bars in the neighborhood, including at least one on Dyckman, are costing local residents affordable housing by renting apartments above or adjacent to the premises in order to create a buffer isolating them from their neighbors in an attempt to prevent noise complaints. Should this be brought up to the Housing Committee?
5. How do we get the stipulations for businesses to the precincts? The SLA does not give this information to them. The Committee has committed to providing this information on a monthly basis so the Precincts can enforce the stipulations; per the SLA, any agreement an owner or operator enter into – even if a notarized document is not returned to the Board – is automatically considered part of the terms of the license granted.