CITY OF NEW YORK



MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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BURT LAZARIN Chair

JESSE R. BODINE District Manager

June 11, 2019

Hon. Margery Perlmutter, Chair Board of Standards and Appeals 250 Broadway, 29th Floor New York, NY 10007

Re: BSA Cal. # 2018-19-BZ Special Permit for a Physical Culture Establishment at 119 West 23rd Street

Dear Ms. Perlmutter:

On the recommendation of its Chelsea Land Use Committee, following a site visit by committee members and after a duly noticed public hearing at the committee meeting on May 19, 2019, Manhattan Community Board No. 4 (CB4), at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 5, 2019, voted, by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote, to recommend the granting of a special permit for a Physical Culture Establishment ("PCE") pursuant to ZR 73-36 to the Humming Puppy ("HP") yoga studio at 119 West 23rd Street.

HP is located on a lot zoned C6-3X and M1-6 in an existing 10-story commercial building. The 4,157 square foot facility occupies the front portion of the second floor. The third floor is occupied by a physical therapy business; the floor below is an art gallery specializing in posters. HP opened April 9, 2018; the special permit would legalize its operation.

Yoga classes for up to 40 people are given in one room which is heated to 80 degrees to gradually warm up muscles. A low hum is played during the class to induce relaxation. The lobby and class spaces are designed to create a safe, sacred space so students can focus on themselves. Distractions are kept to a minimum. No items are for sale. Locker rooms are provided for men and women.

CB4 believes that the HP yoga studio meets the required findings under ZR 73-36 and will be an appropriate and unique addition to the community. We recommend approval of the requested special permit for a PCE.

Sincerely,

Burt Lazarin Chair Manhattan Community Board 4

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Lee Compton Co-Chair Chelsea Land Use Committee

Betty Mackindoch

Betty Mackintosh Co-Chair Chelsea Land Use Committee

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, City Council Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President Representatives of Humming Puppy Yoga Studio