

Minutes of the Chinatown District Management Association, Inc. Meeting (CDMA – aka Chinatown B.I.D.) April 26, 2016

April 26, 2016 4:00 – 5:30 PM 62 Mott Street New York NY 10013

CDMA Board Members Present:

Kenny Chan, Fukien American Association

Adam Chen, representing Public Advocate Letitia James

Nolan Cheng, Law Firm of Cheng, Yeung & Lee PLLC

Stephen Cheung, D.H. Realty & Management

Anthony P. Colombini, Esq., Chu and Partners

Elaine Fan, representing Comptroller Scott M. Stringer

Frank Gee, Gee Poy Kuo Association

Peter Lau, Confucius/Manning Pharmacy

Gigi Li, Community Board #3

Alan Lui, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association

Kenneth Ma, Mott Street Optical

Andrew Marcus, Small Business Services, representing Mayor Bill de Blasio

Jessica Mates, representing Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer

Gabe B. Mui, the American Legion Lt. B.R. Kimlau Memorial Post 1291

Sio Wai Sang, Golden Jade Jewelry

Jerry Shiao, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association

Vera Sung, Community Board #1

Yong Teo, representing Council Member Margaret S. Chin

Tony C. Wong, Wong & Co., CPA's

Shelley Wu, representing NYS Senator Daniel Squadron

Wellman Wu, New Kam Man Supermarket

Patrick Yau, First American International Bank

Chih-Ping Yu, Lin Sing Association

Jianhang Xiao, representing Congresswoman Nydia Velasquez

Chinatown Partnership:

Wellington Chen, Lamgen Leon and William Tam

Guests:

Bob Caruso, Carlos Norena, Faye Qiu, Jose Valencia.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m., Tony C. Wong followed with the invocation.

Gabe Mui continued the meeting by welcoming everyone and asked for self-introductions.

The Nomination Committee presented the BID's officer slate as follow:

Chair: Gabe B. Mui, First Vice-Chair: Kenny Chan, Second Vice-Chair: Michael Salzhauer, Treasurer: Tony C. Wong, and Secretary: Nolan Cheng. Motion to approve the slate passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting from December 3, 2015 passed unanimously.

The new CCBA's president, Mr. Jerry Shiao was introduced and he said a few words and welcomed everyone.

Wellington updated the new development of the design competition with Van Alen Institute and he is gathering an advisory committee. He continued by informing the past successful events such as the first Madison to Madison Lunar New Year Event with collaboration with other BID's, the two Earth Day events, and the progress of the (dot)NYC domain.

He also reported the potential Women Entrepreneurs (WE) project, and the DOT sponsored Asian Heritage Weekend Walk scheduled for May 15. The kiosk is operating in full capacity until June 30th, thanks to the discretionary grant by Council Member Chin. However, we need to find a way to maintain it after July. A discussion ensured on how to raise funding for the kiosk with sponsorship, membership or promotion. Every member is welcome to suggest ideas to the Marketing Committee.

The Marketing Committee reported that we need to focus on promoting the community, attract more visitors to our events, such as Weekend Walks, Mid-Autumn Moon Festival and Earth Day. We also need to shift to something else to bring tangible benefits to local merchants, restaurants and jewelry stores.

The Treasurer reported that the finance is ok, and it will be even or with little surplus by end of fiscal year. But he cautioned that for next fiscal year, we might have a deficit with the minimum wage increase effective at the end of 2016.

There were discussions on the FY17 budget but the decision was postponed until next meeting.

Community Board #3 Chair, Gigi Li reported the development of Grand Street reconstructions, the increase of liquor license applications and other issues involved the community.

Bob Caruso a consultant hired by SBS to help restructure the organization's finance observed that the organization needs to grow, invest in marketing and the future, but is limited to only two staff members. It needs to hire fundraiser and marketing help. It also needs to leverage corporate sponsors and individual supports.

Wellington reminded everyone to save the following dates: April 29, the AARP shredding event; May 6 Jane's Walk; May 15 Asian Heritage Weekend Walk; July Americans with Disability Parade and the September 10 Mid-Autumn Festival.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 P.M.