

## Minutes of the Chinatown District Management Association, Inc. Board Meeting (CDMA – aka Chinatown B.I.D.) June 10, 2021 3:30 – 5:00 PM Wyndham Garden Chinatown and Via ZOOM

## **CDMA Board Members Present and Via Zoom:**

Andrew Chang, representing Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer

Nolan Cheng, Esq., Cheng, Yeung & Lee, PLLC

Stephen Cheung, D.H. Realty & Management

Anthony P. Colombini, Esq., Chu and Partners

David Fu, San Kiang Charitable Association

Frank F. Gee, Gee Poy Kuo Association

Dr. CK Luk, Broadway Chinatown Realty

Kenneth Ma, Mott Street Optical Group

Andrew Marcus, NYC Dept. of Small Business Services, representing Mayor Bill de Blasio

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

Judy Ng, Flushing Bank

John Pasquale, PEP Real Estate

Sio Wai Sang, Golden Jade Jewelry

Stella Shiu, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (USA) N.A.

William Su, Grand Hotel

James Tang, Hwa Yuan Szechuan

Antony Wong, representing Community Board #2

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

Frank Yee, Yee Fong Toy Association

Claudia Zhu, representing NYS Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou

## **Chinatown Partnership:**

Wellington Chen, Lamgen Leon,

## **NCheng Accounting Team:**

Vera Wong, Teresa Yu

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 P.M. by Gabe Mui - on behalf of Frank Yee - welcomed everyone (while Frank get connected remotely) to this first in-person meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic started more than a year ago. Tony C. Wong followed with the blessing and a moment of silence for the thousands of people that since had passed due to this pandemic.

Motion to approve the March 4, 2021 minutes of meeting passed with one abstention.

Wellington continued with a PowerPoint presentation and the latest increase of ADA lawsuits by some unscrupulous lawyers. It was discussed at length and proposed to create and set aside a legal defense fund to help small local businesses fight these lawsuits; the Chinatown BID's ADA Task Force members will join at the next week NYC BID Association meeting, others are also welcome to attend. It was also suggested to invite other local neighbor BIDs to joint together and discuss and to let these lawyers aware that we will help in fighting these lawsuits.

Also discussed was the anti-Asian hates issues and public safety as more attacks on Asian specially on the elderly and women are continuing to happen. Besides other counter measures, the board also approved to buy some personal alarms for distribution and for the staff to procure.

The radio advertisement frequency, banners and map to promote Chinatown budget were discussed, also to allocate some funding to replace broken Big Bellies and possibly add some units in other service area within the BID. The Big Belly Company has shut down the Big Belly's monitor system due to non-payment by the city, so the option of up-front payment by the BID and to be re-paid by the Big Belly company was discussed but rejected, and this year Doyers Street activation with DOT will be extended to 11 months so more allocation is needed for maintenance.

Wellington continued reporting the possible upcoming events such as 9/11 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration with the American Legion and NYPD; Community Land Trust community forum, year-end get-together and possibly a fundraising event with a smaller scale as Jing Fong is closed and other restaurants are not as big. He also wants to re-activate the Space Task Force Committee to negotiate the 217 Park Row office space as the lease expired last year and we are currently on a month-to-month lease, and 49 Madison Street space keeps on deteriorating and as per the lease the BID is responsible for any upkeeping and fixing, and it is costing money.

The Governance attorney will be helping to review with the updated By-Laws and Policy to conform to the non-profit law and will be discussed at future meeting.

NCheng team and Tony Wong followed with the financial report and the proposed FY2022 organization budget, there is a surplus as of the end of April 2021 and we are forecasting a surplus by end of fiscal year 2021, so the organization financial is in good standing.

Motion to approve FY2022 organization budget of \$1,843,000 passed with one abstention.

There is also discussion on the need for government support for property owners, and potential ideas are for property owners to register as 501 ( C ) (3) organizations or Community Land Trust.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 P.M.