

## Minutes of the Chinatown District Management Association, Inc. Board Meeting (CDMA – aka Chinatown B.I.D.) March 16, 2022 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Via Zoom

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

Stella Chan, representing NYC Comptroller Brad Lander

Andrew Chang, representing Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine

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

Stephen Cheung, D.H. Realty & Management

Anthony P. Colombini, Esq., Chu and Partners

Edward J. Cuccia, Sq., Edward J. Cuccia, P.C.

Emily Leng, representing NYS Senate District 26, Senator Brian Kavanagh

Dr. CK Luk, Broadway Chinatown Realty

Andrew Marcus, NYC Dept. of Small Business Services, representing Mayor Eric Adams

Gabe Mui, American Legion Lt. B.R. Kim Lau Memorial Post 1291

Judy Ng, Flushing Bank

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

James T. Tang, Hwa Yuan Szechuan

Ian Wang, representing District 1 Council Member Christopher Marte

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

Frank Yee, Yee Fong Toy Association

## **Chinatown Partnership:**

Wellington Chen, Lamgen Leon, Chelsea Yamada

## **NCheng Accounting:**

Vera Wong

The meeting was called to order and welcomed at 4:07 P.M. by Frank Yee, Tony C. Wong followed with the invocation.

Motion to approve the December 16, 2021 minutes of meeting passed unanimously with the correction of the typo, it should be "long-time" and not "long-term".

Wellington continued with the update of the \$20 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant awarded to Chinatown and surrounding area, and encouraged people and organization to submit proposals by the April 8, 2022 deadline. There will also be a hybrid forum scheduled for March 30, 2022 at Hamilton Madison House for community to participate. A Local Planning Committee was formed and both the MBP Hon. Mark Levine and Wellington Chen are the Co-Chairs, the committee include other organizations and community leaders.

It was suggested to form a BID DRI Task Force for members to propose ideas, discuss and plan on what proposal to submit, such as Gateways, surveillance cameras, reopening Park Row, NYCHA parking, etc...

Motion to form a Chinatown BID Downtown Revitalization Initiatives (DRI) Task Force passed unanimously. A Task Force in-person meeting was scheduled for Monday March 21, 2022 at 4:00 PM for suggestions and discussion for potential proposals.

Wellington continued reporting of the recent killings of several homeless persons in the city and the continued of anti-Asian hates violence around the nation, and discussed safety issues in Chinatown. He also provided updates on the proposed homeless shelters at 231 Grand Street, 91 East Broadway, 49 Madison Street, and there are other options instead of shelters, such as affordable, veteran and/or senior housings.

A board member indicated that the hotel at 91 East Broadway contract with the Department of Homeless Services has not been signed so there is still no lawsuit yet, and they have been talking with elected officials and they will continue challenging the conversion of the hotel to a homeless shelter.

NCheng continued with the financial report and there is a surplus of \$122,000 due to underspending and accounting timing of the grants and others payable invoices such as lighting.

Wellington informed the board of the following initiatives/issues that we have been working on: 1) the \$100,000 that the BID allocated to ADA lawsuits, 2) Anti-Asian Hates, 3) Chinatown CLT, 4) Congestion pricing, 5) DRI round 5, 6) Drug rehabilitation center, 7) Homeless shelters, 5 that already existed and 5 potential additional ones, 8) 49 Madison lease, 9) 91 East Broadway, 10) 231 Grand Street, 11) 250 White Street mega jail.

He also informed the board of the \$10 million NYS grant to help AAPI community, of which the Chinatown Partnership received funding of \$45,000 from the Asian American Federation for specific programs.

Chelsea Yamada reported on the SBS Commercial District Need Assessments (CDNA) survey, and that 120+ businesses and 200+ consumers participated and answered the survey, and will have the report later.

Mr. Cuccia informed and asked the board to spread the words out and encouraged artists to apply for a new Creatives Rebuild NY \$125 million grant, and to submit proposals by the March 25, 2022 deadline, and that there will be a meeting to answer questions on March 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM at 98 Mott Street.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.