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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND  
FRANCHISES

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March 15, 2017  
Start: 11:42 a.m.  
Recess: 11:48 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway  
Committee Room, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor

B E F O R E:  
Donovan Richards  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Antonio Reynoso  
Ritchie Torres  
David Greenfield  
Vincent Gentile

2 CHAIR RICHARDS: Good morning, I am  
3 Donovan Richards, Chair of the Subcommittee on  
4 Zoning and Franchises. Today, this morning, we  
5 are joined by Council Members Reynoso, Torres,  
6 Chair Greenfield and also Council Member  
7 Gentile. We have one item for a public  
8 hearing today, Land Use Item #544, the Shelo  
9 (SP?) Sidewalk Café in Council Member Reynoso's  
10 district. I will now open the public hearing  
11 on Land Use Item #587. Are there any people  
12 here who wish to testify on this issue from the  
13 public? Yes? Okay. Did you fill out a slip?  
14 All right. So you are going to fill out a slip  
15 and then we will put you --

16 [pause]

17 CHAIR RICHARDS: All right. We have  
18 one person here. Oh, okay. Anna Carnera,  
19 Bushido, representing Bushido, LLC, so I will  
20 allow to you to -- you want to testify, you  
21 said?

22 CARNERA (SP): Yes.

23 CHAIR RICHARDS: Yes, you want to  
24 testify, you don't want to testify?

25 UNKNOWN MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

2 CHAIR RICHARDS: All righty. So you  
3 have a seat up here and you will state your  
4 name for the record and who you representing as  
5 well and then you may begin. Just hit the  
6 button, it's going to light-up red.

7 ANNA CARNERA (SP): Hello, my name  
8 is Anna Carnera. I am here for Bushido  
9 Restaurant, LLC.

10 CHAIR RICHARDS: Okay. You wish to  
11 testify, say anything about the project? You  
12 didn't have to but if you -- since --

13 ANNA CARNERA: No, I am actually here  
14 to answer questions. That's why we were called  
15 up. I believe so.

16 CHAIR RICHARDS: Okay. Any  
17 questions? Council Member Reynoso, we will go  
18 to you since this is in your district.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Yes. Since  
20 -- I just want for a background, this is a  
21 project in which Community Board 4 didn't take  
22 a vote for or against the project. It is a  
23 policy that they have which I am going to have  
24 a conversation with them about because it is  
25 not conducive to what we are trying to

2 accomplish here. This new restaurant, I guess,  
3 is under construction so it has no track  
4 record. We can't really measure out in the  
5 street. There is very little we can do hands-  
6 on outside of trusting that you guys are going  
7 to do the right thing and given the lack of  
8 history that we have with this site it is a  
9 little difficult. We do have Sea Wolf which is  
10 on 19 Wyckoff which is on the corner. It seems  
11 to be an establishment that is working fine and  
12 is respectful of the community. I will be  
13 talking to Community Board 4 to vote things up  
14 or down and not take a no decision and see how  
15 it can move forward. Just we want you to know  
16 that in two years you will be back and if  
17 there's any questions or concerns that the  
18 community is having we will pull the sidewalk  
19 café if we don't think you guys are being good  
20 neighbors. Outside of that, I am considering  
21 the lack of decision from Community Board 4,  
22 I'm not going to be -- I'm going to have to  
23 vote up and vote yes so I really don't have any  
24 questions or concerns because you are not an  
25 establishment yet. But in two years, you will

2                   definitely have a track record and we will be  
3                   able to see what we can go off of so I am going  
4                   to ask everyone to vote yes on this project.

5                   CHAIR RICHARDS: Thank you Council  
6                   Member Reynoso. And just to echo what he said,  
7                   I would hope that you will stay in touch with  
8                   his office. It is an issue that apparently  
9                   come up always when we do these sidewalk cafes  
10                  and noise, quality of life and garbage so we  
11                  hope that you are going to be good neighbors as  
12                  you move through and make sure you shovel when  
13                  it snows. You know, so these are the sort of  
14                  complaints we get in the subcommittee and we  
15                  are hoping that you are really going to be a  
16                  good neighbor to the community as you move  
17                  forward. With that being said, are there any  
18                  others who wish to testify from the public?  
19                  All righty. Seeing none, I will now close the  
20                  public use hearing on Land Use Item #587 and  
21                  ask the Council to please call the roll on the  
22                  vote to approve Land Use #587.

23                  CLERK: Chair Richards?

24                  CHAIR RICHARDS: I vote aye.

25                  CLERK: Council Member Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Reynoso?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Torres?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye.

CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0 abstentions, Land Use Item 587 is approved and referred to the Full Land Use Committee.

CHAIR RICHARDS: Thank you so much Council. With that being said, this meeting is now adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date March 20, 2017