



MEETING OF THE CANNABIS COMMISSION

City Hall
2180 Milvia Street
Redwood Room (Sixth Floor)

Thursday, March 7, 2019
2:00 PM

APPROVED ACTION MINUTES

I. Call to Order – 2:02 pm

A. Roll Call and Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

Commissioners present: Cooper, Rice, Brewster, and Cable

Absent: None

Staff Present: Secretary Elizabeth Greene, Mark Sproat, and Claire Kostohryz.

Ex Parte Communications: None

B. Changes to Order of Agenda

None

II. Public Comment

One comment: Will the March 12th Council meeting be discussed at this meeting?

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion/second to approve the January 10, 2019 minutes (Cooper/Rice). The motion carried 4-0-0-0 (Ayes: Cooper, Rice, Cable, Brewster. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.)

IV. Planning Staff Report

Vice Chair Cooper wrote a letter to council requesting appointments to fill the vacancies. Staff mentioned the late items.

V. Chairperson's Report

The Chair and other commissioners commended Charley Pappas for his 8 years on the commission.

VI. Subcommittee Report

No report.

VII. Discussion and Action Items

A. Discuss and vote on representative at upcoming Council and Community Health Commission meetings.

Motion/second to elect Michael Cooper to monitor the Community Health Commission meetings. (Brewster/Rice). The motion carried 4-0-0-0 (Ayes:

Cooper, Rice, Cable, Brewster. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.)

Chair Brewster will attend the City Council meeting on March 12th.

Public Comment: None.

B. Discuss, draft and vote on Council communication restating Commission recommendations for cannabis ordinance to be considered by Council at March 12th meeting.

The Commission would like to discuss cannabis special events at the Council meeting and about the ordinance because this will be their last time to do so.

Public Comment: Six comments. Several comments addressed the importance of more than three cannabis special events so that they can be educational, community oriented, and focused on responsible consumption. People proposed the idea of indoor events, held in lounges, using similar language to SF interior cannabis lounges. There is also an expressed fear from the CHC that the events are essentially duplicating the tobacco industry's strategy to encourage use of an additive product.

The Commission decide to include language about the security and neighborhood compatibility requirements, consumption at retailers, delivery requirements, buffers, and the cap on dispensaries in their communication to Council.

C. Discuss cooperatives/collectives and vote on sending a letter to Council urging changes to State law.

Public Comment: One comment. Former Commissioner Pappas recommended discontinuing this discussion, as continuation of Collectives is up to the State.

Motion/second to drop this item from future agendas (Brewster/Cooper). The motion carried 3-1-0-0 (Ayes: Cooper, Rice, Brewster. Noes: Cable. Abstain: None. Absent: None.)

D. Work Program: Discuss items to be included on draft work plan.

Public Comment: Two comments. Comments related to the need to develop an equity program, what that program should include, and expansion of cultivation beyond the M District.

Commissioners discussed the need to update and clarify the mission statement and to address concerns about cannabis abuse at Berkeley High School, and whether to expand the definition of equity businesses.

E. Ideas for next meeting

The Commission did not discuss this item.

X. Adjournment

Adjourned at 4:05 P.M.

Five late items were distributed at the meeting.

Commissioners in attendance: 4 of 4

Members of the public in attendance: 6

Public comments: 10

Length of meeting: Two hours and 3 minutes

APPROVED: _____



Elizabeth Greene

Cannabis Commission Secretary