



## Vermont Sustainability Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes—September 9, 2021

Tom Nolasco calls to order meeting at 12 pm.

### Attendees

#### Advisory Committee Members:

- Billy Coster
- Stephanie Smith

#### Cannabis Control Board:

- Kyle Harris
- Brynn Hare

#### NACB:

- Tom Nolasco
- Jacob Policzer
- Gina Kranwinkel

### Members of public

Minutes recorded by Meggan Hau.

Tom Nolasco, from National Association of Cannabis Businesses (NACB), made introductions to Advisory Committee members. Jacob Policzer, The Cannabis Conservancy, will be heading this subcommittee and introduced himself.

Introductions from Advisory Committee members: Billy Coster and Stephanie Smith

Public Comments were noted. Members of the Vermont public were notified how to submit comments via the [CCB website](#). Public Comments regarding Sustainability have been received and provided to subcommittee chair. It was noted that the attending public will be allowed to comment during the last ten minutes of this Public Health meeting. The CCB will also hear public comments during their Friday meetings.

Jacob addressed some of the written public comments that were received.

The Subcommittee moves on to discuss tasks, laying out scope of work, strategic plan, and what committee wants to accomplish. Member Kyle Harris explains subcommittee will determine format for Board to easily digest recommendations. Board will consider subcommittee work, vote on the work. If approved, it goes to legislature. Member Brynn Hare adds that the goal of advisory committee is to advise the Board on recommendations, the Board will submit to the legislature based on advice of Advisory committee.

Subcommittee members have a discussion of potential departments or agencies of enforcement and who will oversee various parts of the regulatory framework.



Next, the Subcommittee discusses that the Cannabis Control Board is interested in commercial triggers for Act 250 permit - how land use planning in state of Vermont will be impacted by regulated market. Front end of Act 250- consideration we have to work through going forward.

Notable comments:

\*Billy Coster- Vermont has a robust suite of environmental regulations to start with. Starting from a high bar already. Encourage everyone to keep that in mind. Having medium to long term goals is a good. Understanding timeline, be wary anything new may be difficult to stand up in short time. Focus on where gaps exist and find unique parts of the industry that need more attention.

\*Stephanie Smith- With what is mandated by the statute, where does flexibility exist? For instance, Section 5 of Act 164.

\*Tom Nolasco- How is enforcement handled with Hemp?

- Agency of Agriculture- registration, inspections, enforcement- provide compliance assistance (inform people of how to comply with regulations) Division of Fire Safety. Pesticide enforcement team, Nursery enforcement team- other arms within Enforcement division. Contact with Liquor and Lottery on how they enforce at retail level. Kyle can share.

\*Kyle Harris- It would be great to bring them to a subcommittee meeting over the course of weeks. Act 250.

\*Jacob Policzer- Would like to invite additional experts to these meetings as needed, take estimated figures, what does that look like energy, carbon and water- find gap analysis and bring in experts.

\*Billy Coster- Look at VT market (vastly different from Western states) flower, indoor cultivated. Challenge everyone to test assumptions before building. Use market research done in VT that might help inform.

\*Stephanie Smith- What percentage is taking personal cultivation or growing their own, and how has that impacted market projections? In a 'can-do' society like VT who like to grow things. Any information on that?

Next steps:

Jacob Policzer- Create slides on how we see process of indoor/outdoor greenhouse small/large, different states have tasked different agencies. Chart out what different activities are (indoor cultivation at different scales, outdoor cultivation processes, impacts- existing regulatory oversight).

Kyle Harris- Share information he's collected around the various enforcement teams and agencies.

Tom Nolasco opened the floor for public comment. Member Kyle Harris noted that there are no public comments in the room.

Following public comment and discussion, Jacob Policzer entertains a motion to adjourn. Tom Nolasco seconds. Meeting is adjourned at 1 pm.

Next Sustainability Subcommittee meeting is Monday, September 13 at 12 ET.