

Cannabis Control Board Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – October 1, 2021

Chair calls to order meeting at 11am. Board members in attendance:

- James Pepper, Chair
- Julie Hulburd
- Kyle Harris

Minutes recorded by Nellie Marvel. Chair Pepper notes that this meeting is due to run long, and that they will pause for public comment as noticed at 11:50am, and again at the end of the meeting. He also notes that there will be no advisory committee meetings on Monday, October 11 in observation of Indigenous People's Day.

The Board's recaps from the week's advisory sub-committee meetings begin with Market Structure. The Board is joined by Andrew Livingston and Dan Smith of VS Strategies to review the sub-committee's fee recommendations. Andrew reviews the two fee structure recommendations with the Board: one that is estimated to meet the statutory requirement that collected fees cover the operating costs of the Board, and a second that would not meet that statutory requirement, but would lower barriers to entry for those looking to operate smaller businesses. Andrew also revisits VS Strategies' Cannabis Supply and Demand Model spreadsheet. The Board asks questions and has a detailed discussion with the representatives of VS Strategies.

At 11:50am, Chair Pepper pauses the discussion on the Market Structure sub-committees recommendations in order to take public comment. Comments are submitted in person and via Microsoft Teams.

After public comment, the Board continues its discussion of Market Structure's recommendations and has a discussion of potential license types, including exploring delivery licenses.

After finishing the conversation on the week's Market Structure subcommittee meetings, Chair Pepper continues on to review Thursday's Medicinal Cannabis subcommittee meeting.

Member Hulburd begins her review of the week's meetings by updating the Board on the Social Equity subcommittee's recommendations for the criteria of a social equity applicant, as well as what documentation might be required for proof of social equity applicant status and associated fees or waivers available to applicants.

Chair Pepper entertains a motion to accept the work of the Social Equity subcommittee. Member Hulburd makes that motion, with the understanding that the Board will continue with its own work to create a social equity program. Member Harris seconds. Vote is 3-0-0 to accept the work of the subcommittee.

Member Hulburd then moves on to discuss the work of the Public Health subcommittee thus far. Public Health has not made any decisions for the Board to review as of yet, but has narrowed down their favored warning to two, which have been sent to Vermont's Department of Health for Review. Hulburd also reviews draft recommended written warnings for cannabis packages.

After reviewing the sub-committee's work, Hulburd moves on to review the municipal input survey and subsequent municipal round-table discussion to gather information from towns around Vermont.

Member Harris rounds out the meeting by discussing the week's Sustainability sub-committee meeting. Much of the week's meetings were concerned with energy recommendation discussions. The sub-committee reviewed recommendations made by Vermont's Public Service Department and discussed takeaways.

Compliance & Enforcement: Member Harris relays the subcommittees discussions around partnering with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets on compliance and enforcement issues. The subcommittee also discussed retail enforcement issues, and asked the Agency of Agriculture and the Department of Liquor and Lottery to do a resource analysis on retail enforcement to be submitted to the Board. There were also discussions on outdoor cultivation security issues, and what other jurisdictions have done to secure outdoor grow facilities.

Just past 1pm, Chair Pepper opens the floor for public comment. Members of the public submit comment via Microsoft Teams and in person.

The Board adjourns at 1:10pm.