

HOLYOKE GARDENS, LLC MCN281342

BACKGROUND & APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name and address of the proposed Marijuana Establishment:

Holyoke Gardens, LLC
5A Appleton Street, Holyoke, MA 01040

2. Type of license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

Cultivation /Tier 6 – Indoor (40,001 to 50,000 sq. ft)

3. Applicant is a licensee or applicant for other Marijuana Establishment license(s):

Product Manufacturer (MPN281511)

4. List of all required individuals and their business roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

Justin Goldberg – Board Member
Irene Masse – Board Member
Michael Lees – Board Member
Kevin Thomas – Employee

5. List of all required entities and their roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

Positronic Farms, Inc. – management company that has supplied the property lease agreement and initial capital for the applicant. This applicant has stated that this entity does not have any financial interest and will not have any direct or indirect authority over the establishment. All initial capital has been repaid.

6. Applicant's priority status and information pertaining to co-located operations:

General Applicant.

7. The applicant and municipality executed a Host Community Agreement on May 3, 2018.

8. The applicant conducted a community outreach meeting on May 14, 2018 and provided documentation demonstrating compliance with Commission regulations.

9. The Commission received a municipal response from the municipality on October 19, 2018 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances and bylaws.
10. The applicant proposed the following programs for its Positive Impact Plan:
 - a. Sponsor local food drives and fund-raising events; and
 - b. Provide employment and business opportunities for local citizens.

SUITABILITY REVIEW

11. There were no concerns arising from background checks on the individuals or entities associated with the application.
12. There were no disclosures of any past civil or criminal actions, occupational license issues, or marijuana-related business interests in other jurisdictions.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS REVIEW

13. The applicant states that it can be operational within one (1) month of provisional licensure.
14. The applicant's proposed hours of operation are the following:

Monday – Sunday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
15. The applicant submitted all applicable and required summaries of plans, policies, and procedures for the operation of the proposed establishment. The summaries were determined to be substantially compliant with the Commission's regulations.
16. The applicant proposed the following programs for its Diversity Plan:
 - a. Organize job fairs, training workshops, and educational seminars;
 - b. Engage with the Wounded Warrior Project to advocate, promote, support, and hire disabled veterans; and
 - c. Develop relationships with organizations serving minorities, women, people of all gender identities and sexual orientations, veterans, and persons with disabilities for employment referrals.

17. Summary of cultivation plan (if applicable):

The applicant submitted a detailed cultivation plan that demonstrated the ability to comply with the Commission's regulations.

18. Summary of products to be produced and/or sold (if applicable):

Not applicable.

19. Plan for obtaining marijuana or marijuana products (if applicable):

Not applicable.

20. ISO 17025 Certifying Body and Certificate Number (if applicable):

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend provisional licensure with the following conditions:

1. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations;
2. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with applicable state laws and local codes, ordinances, and bylaws;
3. The applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff;
4. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee; and
5. Final license is subject to the licensee providing Commission staff with an amended Positive Impact Plan specifying the types and frequency of outreach, education, and engagement efforts they plan to execute. Additionally, the licensee will provide the demographic of community members and names of organizations this program is designed to build strong relationships with.

The applicant has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Therefore, the applicant is recommended for provisional licensure.