

CANNABIS ADVISORY BOARD  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

November 3, 2017

3:00 p.m.

250 Washington Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Public Health Council Room,  
Boston, MA 02108

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Jaime Lewis

Associate Commissioner Lindsey Tucker

Michael LaTulippe

Nichole Snow

Horace Small

Dr. Sharon Levy (represented by Dr. Diane Deister, arrived at 3:21pm, not present at Roll)

Dr. Alan Balsam

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chief John Carmichael

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY (by telephone conference call):

Michael Dundas

EXHIBITS/DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes Meeting 3 to be Approved
3. Powerpoint presentation by Chief Toxicologist of the Massachusetts Department of Health
4. Powerpoint presentation by Dr. Stephen Corn
5. Powerpoint presentation by Dr. Staci Gruber

Chair called the meeting to order at 3:04pm. Chair asked for roll call; Chair determined quorum present. There was recording. Chair advised subcommittee members to be aware they were being videotaped or otherwise recorded.

Chair opened discussion of minutes from the Cannabis Advisory Board Public Health Subcommittee meeting which occurred October 27, 2017. No discussion. Chair asked for motion to approve. Horace Small motioned for the approval of the minutes from the Public Health Subcommittee meeting on October 27, 2017. Nichole Snow seconded, Chair called for roll call vote.

Jaime Lewis: Aye, Horace Small: Aye, Nichole Snow: Aye, Michael LaTulippe: Aye, Michael Dundas: Aye, Alan Balsam: Aye, Lindsey Tucker: Abstain

(Dr. Diane Deister, designee for Dr. Sharon Levy arrived at 3:21 pm and was not present at the vote.)

Minutes from the October 27<sup>th</sup> Public Health Subcommittee Meeting Approved.

Chair moved to introduce expert presenters and format for presentations. Chair suggested subcommittee members hold all questions until all presentations were given, in order to have a full discussion and equal time distribution. The subcommittee expressed agreement.

Chair opened for expert presentations with Massachusetts Department of Health Chief Toxicologist Marc Nascarella, PhD.

Nascarella presented on ensuring safe patient access to medical marijuana products. His presentation included an overview of commercial medical marijuana production, the process and further information on product testing, information on Cannabinoid Concentration vs. Dose/Serving including potency vs. dose, and resources available to the subcommittee and the CNB.

Chair moved to open the floor to the next presenter, Dr. Stephen Corn.

Corn presented on education related to Medical and Recreational Cannabis. His presentation included information on Marijuana education for all health care practitioners, and an overview and explanation of the Massachusetts Medical Society Comprehensive Cannabis Curriculum.

Chair moved to open the floor to the next presenter, Dr. Staci Gruber.

Gruber presented an overview of studies carried out with recreational MJ users and summary of findings

Medical vs Recreational, adolescent vs older users

Touch on driving and MJ use

Horace Small left at 4:41pm.

Chair moved to open a question and answer session for the subcommittee members and the presenters, starting with Marc Nascarella.

There was a question on the use of 'organic' on medical marijuana labeling, and qualifications. A clarification on tinctures absorption rates. There was a question on future potential of labeling edible Marijuana Infused Products as food, including concerns over allergens labeling. A clarification was asked on the numbers presented on the contaminants testing slide, confirmation that these are not baseline numbers, and that there is not a heavy metal standard for food; questions and discussion about the Department of cooperation with the Department of Agriculture for future Medical and Adult Use regulations.

Dr. Alan Balsam left the meeting at 4:50pm.

Chair thanked Marc Nascarella for his presentation and time. Chair moved to question and answer session with presenter Dr. Stephen Corn.

Dr. Stephen Corn

There was a question on how a curriculum requirement for Marijuana education could be added into the physician certification process. A discussion about the importance for all medical practitioners to

learn about endocannabinoid system. A question was asked about how this information and curriculum is generally received by the medical community, and any impressions Dr. Corn had about Massachusetts physician attitudes towards Medical and Adult use marijuana, with regards to concerns over Federal Government action. A question about how many medical schools have marijuana education programs was asked. A discussion over what sources supply the information for the curriculum occurred; which included Health Canada and Israeli Dr. Raphael Mechoulam. A question was asked about plans to make a curriculum module for pediatrics and Marijuana or mental health and marijuana, and a discussion about modules available and in production.

Chair thanked Dr. Stephen Corn for his presentation and time. Chair moved to question and answer session with presenter Dr. Staci Gruber.

Dr. Staci Gruber was asked about the importance of educational and scientific information. A question on suggestions and level of need for harm reduction strategies around youth and edibles was asked. A question on the doctor's opinion on attention and concern about Concentrates/Dabs vs. edibles in terms of harm and harm reduction. A question on her opinion regarding the impact of limitations on Adult use potency, dosing and serving size on Medical Marijuana products availability. A question on suggestions for appropriate serving size, and information on how many servings in a package.

Chair thanked all the expert presenters for their time. Chair announced the date of the meeting to be Friday, November 10, at 3:00pm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Public Health Council Room at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Building.

Chair closed the meeting at 5:25pm.