

Cannabis Advisory Board Public Safety and Community Mitigation Subcommittee

Minutes for Friday, October 20th, 2017, 12pm-2pm

Present: Matt Allen (Chair), Andrea Cabral, John Carmichael, Michael Latulippe, Kim Napoli, with attendance by Commissioner Britte McBride (not a subcommittee member)

Introduction

- Matt Allen: Reiterates the notion that the intent is not to campaign for or against- job is to inform the commission and support evidence based policies.

1. Reviewing the charge of the subcommittee/ Open Meeting law

Commissioner Britte McBride gave an overview of the requirements of the open meeting law including:

- Meetings should start with an announcement about whether or not the meeting is being recorded
- Documents shared with the group must be made available to the public
- Any discussion involving a quorum must be made available to the public, therefore no email discussions should include a quorum, although scheduling and sharing documents for later review at a public meeting is fine.
- Therefore, it is best to BCC all email addresses when emailing the group. This will prevent people from accidentally beginning a discussion that includes a quorum and would then be subject to the open meeting law.

2. Business Issues

- Kim: Mentioned concerns in regard to public education, suggests comparing MA to other states to see what other states have done. Defines public education as developing a public information campaign, whether medical or recreational, find out what other states have done to inform the public in that way.
- May overlap with the public health component, however Kim is not necessarily concerned because her concern is educating the public in general.
- Michael: Raises a point about what education may look like in regard to youth; how do we get uniform education/materials
- Andrea: Raises concern about regional and local limitations, influence, and regulations.
- Matt Allen: Points out efforts already in place that demonstrate positive regulations regarding marijuana dispensaries and the relationship the community has with the commission in terms of reporting local issues.
- Michael: Review the “Cole Memorandum”, which is technically still active.
- John: Not sure how Attorney Sessions will address the “Cole0 Memo.” Praises MA approach/efforts in toward regulating marijuana.

- Expresses that from a law enforcement perspective, the intent is to reduce pressures on the CJS and the way to do that is to educate the public. Educate the public on OUI, sharing, how much you can have (the amount), people need to know the limit to home grow, etc. Expresses that this will reduce the burden on the CJS. Stresses holistic education across the state.
- Michael: Compares to the legalization of medical usage and the conflict that arose as a result of lack of education in law enforcement and consumer/patient punishment.
- Andrea: Advocates for bigger departments having uniform dissemination. Doing outreach/training. Claims this issue touches on: school police, university police, BPD.
- Mentions concern that there is no test and poor blood testing.
- Kim, Chief, and Andrea: Dissatisfaction with lack of science. Lack of science = no test.
- Kim: Stresses big area of research for discussion is lack of science

3. Law Enforcement

- Chief: Any time something is being implemented into the community (pharmacy, bank, etc.) it is a major concern that there is a lot of security from the staff to the facility. Stresses the notion that we need to consider, “what is necessary” in terms of the physical security of the building. Ex: card swipe, keys, bulletproof glass. / Cameras, alarm system (are of issues may be point of sale).
- Look at places up and running now. – mentions dispensary in Brookline—there should be a specific place to call if there is a conflict that should arise.
- Kim: Law enforcement can be instrumental in the illicit market, home delivery service, which defeats the purpose of regulating marijuana (public safety concern.)
- John: in cases of 50lbs its considered trafficking, anything lower is MA law enforcements problem.
- Michael: “can the commission help with this”, the commission should warn the educate and inform the public about what is legal and what is not so. That way they can discontinue services before enforcement takes place.
- Andrea: The AG could be the enforcement for the commission.
- Chief: Law enforcement is regulating the Internet, not as heavily, but law enforcement does address the issues of the black market now. Difficulty is online resources continue to pop up as one gets shuts down.

4. Community Mitigation

- Matt Allen: states that there are disparities in economic development opportunities, excessive community mitigation fees can be a barrier to entry into the market.
- Andrea: Makes the appointment of whole foods in JP and how we need to look at the needs of the community to make sure the money is directly going to the economy of that community.
- Michael: wants to see an evaluation process happening on the commission to address economic community impact. And consider having some oversight

from the commission for percentage of money to toward certain things like prevention, the school system, etc.

- Andrea: There are a wide variety of resources that could be used to help community mitigation rather than just, “here is your X% of profits”

5. Consumer Issues:

- Kim: Makes a point of onsite consumption and considering this notion under broader circumstances.
- Michael: Regulate social consumption in a way that we haven’t seen in other states./ Adult consumption facilities—the goal is to use it all on site. Ex: taking a beer mug out of a bar and onto the street is not really accepted.
- Michael: Should have a unique set of regulations for onsite consumptions facilities rather than if there are loose laws and people are able to leave/take marijuana out into the streets.
- Chief: People are investing a lot of money into these facilities and want to make sure things are done right and that there is security, etc. Want to protect their business. This is one reason why there should be stress on background checks for you hire and physical security of dispensaries.
- Lab testing standards should also apply to consumption- Question 4 during campaign.

6. Review:

Public Comment

- Will: 1. Does this diminish the black market? 2. Question 3. Is this more restrictive than most states?
 - If there is background check on employees, there needs to be a sound public policy reason.
 - Is there sound reason for it to be more secure than a liquor store or pharmacy? It makes sense that those who are younger than 21 years that they may not enter.
 - The city of town has to prove that there is the actual cost
- Health Wise (James): urges commission to consider the design guide used in medical and design standards and really important. Has had help in working with law enforcement and he has also worked with messaging to youth. Offers his help. Healthwisefoundation.com (does not work yet.)
- Sonia: Urges to discontinue the use of the term “black market”, create some type of campaign for people who are current participants of the illicit market in understanding how to become apart of the legal market. Consumerresponsiblymassachusetts.com. Testing—have the same standards for medical and recreational, but make sure that the testing labs are consistent. Create a system of checks and balances.
- Robert: 45% voted against this.
- Someone: urges a concern of control- newenglandgrassrootsinstitute.com- wants to know how you can prevent your children from smoking when you’re growing in the house.

Volunteer Point Person: Kim

Law Enforcement: Chief John.
Community Mitigation: Michael Latulipee
Consumer Issues: Matt Allen
Andrea: will email information on all.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:05pm