CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 2018 10:30 a.m.
Health Policy Commission
50 Milk St, 8th Floor
Boston, MA

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chairman Steven Hoffman
Commissioner Kay Doyle
Commissioner Jen Flanagan (Remote participation)
Commissioner Britte McBride
Commissioner Shaleen Title

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Presentation
2. Economic Empowerment Approvals
3. Economic Empowerment Denials
4. RMD Denials

Chairman Hoffman called to order the meeting of the Cannabis Control Commission at 10:30am on May 22, 2018. Chairman Hoffman noted that Commissioner Flanagan was participating remotely, therefore a voice vote would be taken. Chairman Hoffman noted the meeting was being recorded.

Chairman Hoffman reviewed the agenda. Chairman Hoffman asked if there were any comments or questions for the May 17, 2018 meeting minutes. Executive Director Collins noted that the spelling of the name for the Director of Community Outreach had been misspelled. Commissioner Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Title.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye
Commissioner Title: Aye

The motion is approved by the Commission unanimously.

Chairman Hoffman turned to Mr. Collins for his executive report. Mr. Collins noted that two new job positions have been posted to the website. Mr. Collins reviewed the total priority applications. There have been 609 for economic priority and 204 for the RMD. The staff has 44 files reopened. Chairman Hoffman thought that reopening and helping people provide the right documentation has been the right decision. While the process was slower, it was the right trade off. Mr. Collins then turned to applications for licensing. There are 81 pending, 41 withdrawn and 641 incomplete. Mr. Collins spoke about the different license types that have been applied for. After the 4 packets have been submitted, the staff begin working on “completeness.” The staff has reached out to 20 applicants, to begin the background check process.

Commissioner McBride presumed the applicants were priority status applicants. Mr. Collins said 25 were existing RMD applicants, 5 were Economic Empowerment, and 5 for regular applicants. Commissioner McBride asked when will we start the actual review? Mr. Collins said the staff will begin by reviewing for completeness. Then the staff will send out for a background check.

Chairman Hoffman turned to the staff recommendations on priority certification approvals and denials. Chairman Hoffman pulled out four applications of Batch 1, because of disclosed conflict of interest with Commissioner Title. Mr. Collins noted Batch 1 was economic empowerment applications, which has been recommended for approval by staff. Mr. Collins discussed the process in which staff reviewed the applications. Commissioner McBride made a motion to approve Batch 1, seconded by Commissioner Title.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye
Commissioner Title: Aye

The motion is approved by the Commission unanimously.

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Chairman Hoffman turned to Batch 1a. Mr. Collins explained that these applicants have been recommended by staff for approval, with a conflict of interest with Commissioner Title disclosed. Commissioner Doyle made the motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McBride.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye
Commissioner Title: Abstain

The motion is approved by the Commission by a vote of 4-0, 1 abstaining.

Mr. Collins moved on to Batch 2, an RMD recommended for denial because it was submitted late. Commissioner Doyle made the motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner McBride.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye
Commissioner Title: Aye

The motion for denial is approved by the Commission unanimously.

Chairman Hoffman turned to batch 3. Mr. Collins noted that these are economic empowerment applications that have been recommended by staff for denial. Mr. Collins noted that not all applicants got back to materials when staff reopened the application for additional information. Commissioner Doyle made the motion to approve the staff recommendations for denial, seconded by Commissioner McBride.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye
Commissioner Title: Aye

The motion for denial is approved by the Commission unanimously.

Mr. Collins turned to Batch 3a, two economic empowerment applications that staff recommended for denial, with a conflict of interest with Commissioner Title disclosed. Commissioner Title noted that she had identified the conflicts. Commissioner McBride made a motion to approve the staff recommendations for denial, seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Commissioner Doyle: Aye
Commissioner Flanagan: Aye
Chairman Hoffman: Aye
Commissioner McBride: Aye

Commissioner Title: Abstain

The motion to deny is approved by the Commission by a vote of 4-0, 1 abstaining.

Mr. Collins thanked the staff for all their hard work in helping people manage the application successfully. Mr. Collins is very proud of the Commission for getting through so many applications in a short manner. Chairman Hoffman also thanked the staff for all their hard work. Commissioner Title noted that the speed in which staff got through applications was unheard of.

With no further business before the Commission, Chairman Hoffman adjourned the meeting at 10:55am.