CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

May 7, 2020
10:00AM

Remote Participation
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:
- Application materials for the following applications:
  - Baked Bean, LLC
  - Caregiver-Patient Connection, LLC
  - Grass Appeal, LLC
  - Mass Yield Cultivation, LLC
  - Nova Farms, LLC
  - Liberty Compassion, Inc.
  - Native Sun Wellness, Inc. (#MP281433)
  - Native Sun Wellness, Inc. (#MR281800)
  - Nature’s Remedy of Massachusetts, Inc. (#MR282049)
  - Eagle Eyes Transport, Inc. (#MT281320)
  - Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MC281343)
  - Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MP281480)
  - In Good Health, Inc. (#MR282468)
  - Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MR281256)
  - Solar Therapeutics (#MR281817)
  - Bud’s Goods & Provisions Corp. (#MR281774)
  - Bud’s Goods & Provisions Corp. (#MR282319)
  - The Botanist, Inc. (#RMD-1225)
  - Silver Therapeutics, Inc.
  - Briarleaf, LLC
  - New England Treatment Access, LLC (#RMD-185)
  - New England Treatment Access, LLC (#RMD-125)
  - Fidelity Wellness Center, Inc.
  - Ermont, Inc. (#RMD-225)
  - Healthy Pharms (#RMD-285)
  - Caregiver-Patient Connection, LLC. (#MC282237) Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
  - Ipswich Pharmaceutical Associates, Inc. d/b/a Fine Fettle (#MC281749)
    Cultivation, Tier 2/Outdoor
  - Silver Therapeutics, Inc. (#MR281910), Retail
  - Alternative Therapies Group (#RMD-1528)
  - Alternative Therapies Group (#RMD-1530)
- Atlantic Farms, LLC. (#MCN281975) Cultivation, Tier 7/Outdoor
- B Leaf Wellness Centre, LLC. (#MRN281356), Retail
- Cypress Tree Management, Inc. (#MRN282803), Retail
- EOS-Bittersweet, LLC. (#MCN282296) Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
- Fernway, LLC. (#MPN281661), Product Manufacturing
- Galil Greenery, LLC (#MRN281978), Retail
- Ganesh Wellness, Inc. (#MPN281634), Product Manufacturing
- Ganesh Wellness, Inc. (#MRN282519), Retail
- Green Meadows Farm, LLC (#MRN282316), Retail
- Green Stratus Corp (#MRN282256), Retail
- Green World, LLC. d/b/a Green Heart (#MRN281939), Retail
- Grow Team Gardens (#MBN281521), Microbusiness
- Heal Provincetown, Inc. (#MRN282621), Retail
- High Hawk Farm, LLC (#MCN282412), Cultivation, Tier 11/Outdoor
- HumboldtEast, LLC (#MCN282004), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor
- Hyecorp, LLC d/b/a Green Star (#MRN282460), Retail
- Jamaco, LLC (#MCN282136), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
- LMCC, LLC (#MRN282796), Retail
- Lynn Organics, LLC (#MRN282618), Retail
- Major Bloom, LLC (#MRN283033), Retail
- Mantis Management Group, LLC (#MCN281390), Cultivation, Tier 1/Indoor
- Mantis Management Group, LLC (#MPN281550), Product Manufacturing
- Mederi, Inc. (#MCN282059), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
- Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282527), Retail
- Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282604), Retail
- Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282814), Retail
- Nature’s Embrace, Inc. (#MRN282669), Retail
- Northampton Enterprises, Inc. (#MRN282356), Retail
- Ocean Breeze Cultivators, LLC (#MCN281908), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor
- Ocean Breeze Cultivators, LLC (#MPN281663), Product Manufacturing
- Peak Limited, LLC (#MCN281941), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
- Peak Limited, LLC (#MPN281400), Product Manufacturing
- Spencer House, LLC d/b/a Canna Corner (#MRN281885), Retail
- The High End Chocolate Company, LLC d/b/a The High End (#MCN281364), Cultivation, Tier 4/Indoor
- Top Shelf Cannaseurs, LLC (#MCN281604), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor
- Top Shelf Cannaseurs, LLC (#MPN281435), Product Manufacturing
- ToroVerde (Massachusetts) III, Inc. (#MRN282629), Retail
- ToroVerde (Massachusetts) II, Inc. (#MRN282320), Retail
- ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc. (#MRN282601), Retail

- Information for Economic Empowerment Applicants & Social Equity Participants

**In Attendance:**
- Chairman Steven Hoffman
**Minutes:**

1) Call to Order
   - The Chairman recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.

2) Chairman’s Comments & Updates
   - The Chairman gave an overview of the agenda.

3) Minutes for Approval
   - The Chairman noted that the Commission would be approving the meeting minutes from April 3, 2020
   - Commissioner McBride moved to approve the minutes from the April 3 meeting.
   - Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
   - The Commission unanimously approved.
   - Commissioner Title said she had a motion to amend previous minutes.
   - Commissioner Title moved to amend the minutes for the March 5, 2020 public meeting with respect to Core Empowerment, LLC (#MRN281865) changing the line reading “The Chairman noted that this is an economic empowerment application” to “The Chairman noted that this was an expedited applicant based on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE Status).
   - Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
   - The Commission unanimously approved the motion to amend the march 5 meeting minutes.

4) Executive Director’s Report
   - Commissioner Title wanted to congratulate the 126 SEP program participants for completing the program. Commissioner Title also thanked Shekia Scott and Alyssa Flores and each of the vendors who taught in the program.
   a. Highlights from Licensing Data**
      - The Executive Director noted that there are 32 applications that are pending in the portal, which is a significant decrease over the past several months. These have not received initial review. There are others that have received an initial review and a request for information.
      - There are 40 awaiting staff recommendation and 141 applications awaiting a third-party response.
      - The Executive Director noted that there the Commission recently issued a bulletin with respect to fingerprinting. There has been reduction in the volume of the locations to fulfill this requirement, but they are available. Fingerprinting is available through a
statewide contract, so those services are being sought by many and delays may occur. Fingerprinting must be done prior to final license. Applicants should not seek a waiver from the requirement, but it may be a condition put on Provisional License approvals.

- The Executive director noted that the Commission is still seeing a surge in patient applications, 72,502 certified active patients in April, which is a 14% increase over the 63,720 number in March. Because of technological advancements, the Commission has been able to process those applications in a timely manner.

b. Update: Progress on Executive Director Goals

- The Executive Director went over the progress to date on the goals set by the Commission in November 2019.
  - 3 100% complete
  - 2 75% complete
  - 3 50% complete
  - 1 25% complete
  - 1 not yet started.

- Commissioner McBride asked with respect to the Employee Handbook how the Commission is anticipating changes that might come about with regard to the office and potential social distancing measures, potential COVID 19 concerns, and how those changes might be integrated into the handbook.
  - The Executive Director said that the handbook will be the overarching document for the Commission’s overall employee relations scheme, but operating procedures and other documents will supplement the handbook.
  - The Executive Director further noted that the Commission is currently working with the City of Worcester, the Commission’s landlord, and other sources of guidance with respect to when employees can return to the offices. Fortunately, many of the workspaces are 6 feet apart, but that does not necessarily ensure appropriate social distancing, so there’s a lot to still work out.
  - Commissioner McBride asked, in addition to the physical workspace, how the Commission is planning to accommodate schedules and work hours in light of the pandemic. Some folks are going to have a lot of responsibilities they didn’t anticipate a few months ago. Commissioner McBride said she does not expect answers now, but to the extent folks are having conversations to shape the policies, she expressed her interest in the development of those policies. Commissioner McBride noted that there is a tricky balance to be struck between putting people first but also running a state agency. Commissioner McBride also thanked the Executive Director for his work in this respect.
  - The Executive Director noted that Commissioner McBride’s concerns about work hours and schedules is important given that in addition to working remotely a lot of people’s home lives have been impacted by the pandemic. The handbook discussed does accommodate alternative work schedules, something the Commission was considering previously, but may be leveraged to address these concerns. The Executive Director said there is an internal operations group sorting through the logistics of the safest and most efficient way to return to work.
• The Chairman said the practice of a mid-term update on the Executive Director’s goals is appropriate and that this 6-month check in shows a strong performance toward accomplishing all of the goals. The Chairman noted that the goals should be a “living list” and this midpoint check-in is helpful to determine if the goals are still relevant and attainable.
  o The Executive Director said they are all attainable. With respect to relevant, these are goals that are engrained in the Commission’s day to day operations and are discussed weekly. That being said, given the change in circumstances have required adjustments, such as working from home and drafting bulletins and orders in response to COVID-19, but those fit within these goals. With respect to the employment goals, those are crucial to the culture that the Commission is trying to build with respect to employee satisfaction.

c. Update: Inspections
• The Executive Director noted that at previous meetings the idea of virtual inspections and how the Commission might get back to “normal” inspections was discussed. The Commission has developed a plan for virtual inspections and will launch a pilot of the program, to test the plan. The Commission and licensee will mutually agree to the virtual inspection, using a real-time video conferencing mechanism. Some will be a hybrid between virtual and in person. All virtual inspections will require an in-person follow up inspection when safe to do so. There will be two inspectors on the virtual inspection, one as a lead and the other as a witness. There may be a “reinspection” if there were deficiencies that needed to be corrected. In such an instance, notices will be given as a result of the virtual inspection and inspectors will follow up with the in-person inspection. Currently vehicle inspections are being prioritized because medical home delivery is currently being relied on heavily.
  • Post final license inspections are the last inspection before commencing operations. Two of the key things looked at in that inspection are (1) compliance with Metrc by reconciling inventory physically at the location with what is entered into the system and (2) ensuring that background checks for agents has been completed. This is something Commission staff can likely do virtually for now, but in the ordinary course of business, it would be done in person. Staff is currently working with licensees to determine the feasibility of virtual inspections at that time, because there may be instances where a virtual inspection cannot substitute an in-person inspection.
• The Chairman asked the Executive Director to amplify the status and anticipated start date.
  o The Executive Director said that one virtual inspection has been done and others are being scheduled. With respect to the outdoor cultivation piece, the Commission is aware that this is the growing season, so the Commission is underway in scheduling those, including a virtual inspection and an in person.
• The Chairman thanked the Executive Director and staff for their work on this initiative and asked the Executive Director to discuss the timing and status for implementing this plan.
• The Executive Director said that one virtual inspection happened, and more are scheduled. The Executive Director also acknowledged that the Commission is aware that this is the growing season and the Commission wants to do what it can to ensure that that season is not missed.

5) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
a. Baked Bean, LLC
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Ownership.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

b. Caregiver-Patient Connection, LLC
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Ownership.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

c. Grass Appeal, LLC
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Ownership.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

d. Mass Yield Cultivation, LLC
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Ownership.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

e. Nova Farms, LLC
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Ownership.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
• Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

6) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Location

a. Liberty Compassion, Inc.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Change of Location.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Change of Location.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve the Change of Location.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Location.

7) Staff Recommendations on Renewals

• The Chairman noted that it is the Commission’s practice to consider renewals as a roster. There has been no request for a specific consideration, though Commissioner Flanagan requested two universal conditions on Renewals.
  o Proposed Conditions: For all adult use renewals (1) within 90 days of removal of state of emergency declaration, all applicants must notify the Commission of updated actions on the plans to positively impact disproportionately harmed people and (2) within 90 days of removal of the state of emergency declaration, all applicants must notify the Commission on updated actions taken on diversity plans.
• Commissioner Title asked to read the additional condition already in the staff recommendation with respect to Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers: within the 60 days the licensee shall submit its program to provide reduced cost or free marijuana to patients with documented, verified financial hardship, as required under 501.050(1)(h). The submission shall include a progress update on implementing the plan, if applicable, and the website where the plan is posted, if applicable.
• The Chairman asked for additional question and comments and then for a motion to approve the full roster of Renewals, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Flanagan and Title.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve the roster of renewals subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Flanagan and Title.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the roster of renewals, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Flanagan and Title.

a. Native Sun Wellness, Inc. (#MP281433)
b. Native Sun Wellness, Inc. (#MR281800)
c. Nature’s Remedy of Massachusetts, Inc. (#MR282049)
d. Eagle Eyes Transport, Inc. (#MT281320)
8) Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
   • The Chairman noted that the Commission considers Final Licenses as a roster, unless a Commissioner requests otherwise. No Commissioner requested individual consideration.
   • The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the roster of final licenses.
   • Commissioner McBride moved to approve the roster of final licenses.
   • Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
   • The Commission Unanimously approved the roster of final licenses.

   a. Caregiver-Patient Connection, LLC. (#MC282237) Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
   c. Silver Therapeutics, Inc. (#MR281910), Retail
   d. Alternative Therapies Group (#RMD-1528)
   e. Alternative Therapies Group (#RMD-1530)

9) Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
   • The Chairman noted that the Commission considers provisional licenses separately but will group together applications from the same entity for the sake of the remote meeting.
   a. Atlantic Farms, LLC. (#MCN281975) Cultivation, Tier 7/Outdoor
      • The Chairman noted that this is an expedited application based on license type.
      • Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for Provisional License.
      • Commissioner Title requested a condition.
         o Proposed condition: revise the goal of having 10% of the staff being women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

d. B Leaf Wellness Centre, LLC. (#MRN281356), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

c. Cypress Tree Management, Inc. (#MRN282803), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

d. EOS-Bittersweet, LLC. (#MCN282296) Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
• The Chairman noted that his was an expedited application based on DBE Status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition
  o Revise diversity plan to hire one individual from the targeted groups to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

e. Fernway, LLC. (#MPN281661), Product Manufacturing
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal that 25% of staff be women or other specified groups to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

f. Galil Greenery, LLC (#MRN281978), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Revise diversity plan goal to hire 20% of staff to be women and/or veterans to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

g. Ganesh Wellness, Inc. (#MPN281634), Product Manufacturing

h. Ganesh Wellness, Inc. (#MRN282519), Retail
• The Chairman noted that his was an expedited application based on DBE status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for both provisional licenses of Ganesh Wellness.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve both of the provisional licenses.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve both of the provisional licenses.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved both of the provisional licenses.

i. Green Meadows Farm, LLC (#MRN282316), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

j. Green Stratus Corp (#MRN282256), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

k. Green World, LLC. d/b/a Green Heart (#MRN281939), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: Revise diversity plan goal of hiring 15% women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

l. Grow Team Gardens (#MBN281521), Microbusiness
• The Chairman noted that this is an expedited application based on license type.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Flanagan requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: provide additional information on the seminar topics to be presented.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Flanagan.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Flanagan.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Flanagan.

m. Heal Provincetown, Inc. (#MRN282621), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

n. High Hawk Farm, LLC (#MCN282412), Cultivation, Tier 11/Outdoor
• The Chairman noted that this was an expedited application based on license type.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride requested two conditions, noting that the applicant stated that they could be ready to commence operations in two months’ time, but in reviewing of the summary of the Management Operation Profiles, the summaries did not seem detailed enough to demonstrate they’ve contemplated the Commission’s requirements sufficiently to be ready in two months’ time. While these elements may be addressed as part of the final license inspection, it would be helpful to see that they’ve thought this through prior to that.
  o Proposed conditions: within 30 days of provisional licensure, (1) submit a detailed description of the facilities for storage and/or vault for harvested cannabis and (2) present a detailed description of the topography for the location and whether it presents any unique challenges for perimeter fences or surveillance, and if so, how the applicant will address them.
• Commissioner Title also requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: update diversity plan to hire 20% women to be objectively reasonable.
• Commissioner Title also commented that the positive impact plan is inadequate. They plan simply consists of donating $2,500 to the United Way in Fitchburg, which might technically satisfy the plan, but a licensee of this size should be putting more thought and effort into the plan.
  o Commissioner Flanagan stated that she agreed whole heartedly with Commissioner Title. Commissioner Flanagan stated that the Commission has provided enough guidance to write a sufficient positive impact plan. Commissioner Flanagan has noted that she has commented that writing a check is an easy way out.
  o Proposed condition: redraft and resubmit the positive impact plan so that it more closely fulfills the goals behind the positive impact plan requirement.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners McBride, Title, and Flanagan.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners McBride, Title, and Flanagan.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners McBride, Title, and Flanagan.

o. HumboldtEast, LLC (#MCN282004), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal to hire 20% from two or more of the groups identified to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

p. Hyecorp, LLC d/b/a Green Star (#MRN282460), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition
  o Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal to hire 15% women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

q. Jamaco, LLC (#MCN282136), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

r. LMCC, LLC (#MRN282796), Retail
• This is an expedited applicant based on the applicants Social Equity Program participant status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed Condition: revise diversity plan goal of hiring 15% women to be objectively reasonable
• Flanagan requested a condition and stated her concerns with respect going into elderly homes to host seminars, given that some of these residents may have powers of attorney or health proxy. Perhaps this would be more appropriate for senior centers rather than elderly home.
  o Proposed condition: provide more specifics on the workshop seminars that will be presented to elderly homes and how those seminars will work.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and Flanagan.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and Flanagan.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and Flanagan.

• The Chairman asked for a motion to recess until noon.
• Commissioner Doyle moved
• Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously voted to recess.

s. Lynn Organics, LLC (#MRN282618), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal to hire 10% of people from certain demographics, including women to be reasonably objective
• Commissioner Title also noted her concern, without requesting a condition, with the word “organics” in the name.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

t. Major Bloom, LLC (#MRN283033), Retail
• The Chairman noted that this was an Economic Empowerment Application.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

u. Mantis Management Group, LLC (#MCN281390), Cultivation, Tier 1/Indoor
v. Mantis Management Group, LLC (#MPN281550), Product Manufacturing
• The Chairman noted that this was an expedited applicant based on DBE status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for both provisional license applications for Mantis Management Group, LLC.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition to apply to both applications.
  o Proposed demographics: revise diversity plan to hire 10% individuals falling into certain categories, including women, to be objectively reasonable.
• Commissioner McBride requested a condition to apply to both applications.
  o Proposed condition: Provide additional information regarding the $10,000 startup capital for cannabis businesses stated as a major component of its positive impact plan.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve both of the provisional licenses, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and McBride.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve both of the provisional licenses, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and McBride.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved both of the provisional licenses, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title and McBride.

w. Mederi, Inc. (#MCN282059), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise the diversity plan goal of targeting 15% women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

x. Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282527), Retail
y. Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282604), Retail
z. Munro Associates, LLC d/b/a The Vault (#MRN282814), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for all three provisional licenses for Munro Associates LLC.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise the diversity plan goal to recruit 15% women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title moved to approve all three of the provisional licenses, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved all three of the provisional licenses, subject to the Condition requested by Commissioner Title.

aa. Nature’s Embrace, Inc. (#MRN282669), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

bb. Northampton Enterprises, Inc. (#MRN282356), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  • Proposed condition: revise the diversity plan goal to maintain a staff of 20% women to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

c. Ocean Breeze Cultivators, LLC (#MCN281908), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor

dd. Ocean Breeze Cultivators, LLC (#MPN281663), Product Manufacturing
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for both provisional licenses for Ocean Breeze Cultivators, LLC.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve both of the provisional licenses.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve both of the provisional licenses.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved both of the provisional licenses.

e. Peak Limited, LLC (#MCN281941), Cultivation, Tier 2/Indoor

ff. Peak Limited, LLC (#MPN281400), Product Manufacturing
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for both of provisional licenses for Peak Limited LLC.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  • Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal to hire 10% from targeted groups, including women, or 1 job to be objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve both of the provisional licenses, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved both of the provisional licenses, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

**Spencer House, LLC d/b/a Canna Corner (#MRN281885), Retail**
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: review guidance and resubmit positive impact plan. It is not clear how a $500 donation to the Becket Police Department will positively impact disproportionately harmed people.
• Flanagan requested a condition and noted that there were a lot of pieces that need to be reconsidered, which is why the condition requires that the plan be rewritten and resubmitted. With respect to goal 1, safe practices are a requirement, and not an element of a positive impact plan. Also, the mentoring sessions seem to be similar to the educational sessions that can happen at Marijuana Establishment, so there needs to be clarification about how the mentoring program is different. It is unclear how giving money to a town holiday party translates into giving educational materials to residents of the host community.
  o Proposed condition: rewrite and resubmit positive impact plan with respect to: (1) goal 1 - safe practices, that is a requirement not a positive impact plan element; (2) provide information on education sessions versus mentoring sessions; (3) how will Spencer House provide educational materials to residents when the plan says it will be donating to a town holiday party for kids.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Flanagan and Title.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Flanagan and Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Flanagan and Title.

**The High End Chocolate Company, LLC d/b/a The High End (#MCN281364), Cultivation, Tier 4/Indoor**
• The Chairman noted that this is an expedited application based on DBE status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the provisional license.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license.

ii. Top Shelf Cannaseurs, LLC (#MCN281604), Cultivation, Tier 3/Indoor
• The Chairman noted that this was an expedited application based on Social Equity Program participant status.
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition and also wanted to flag that more documentation and specificity should be required when we have an SEP participant that is donating to an organization that is also a vendor under the SEP.
  o Proposed condition: resubmit positive impact plan to provide more detail on how donations will be used to positively impact disproportionately impacted people.
• Commissioner Flanagan requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: rewrite positive impact plan to describe the targeted Area of Disproportionate Impact and how the donation to C3N will positively impact that area.
• Commissioner McBride requested a condition, noting that there appears to be a copy and paste error. This may be indicative of not taking sufficient care in drafting these documents, and if so, what impact will that have down the line.
  o Proposed condition: prior to final licensure, revise security plan to note the correct business name.
• Commission Flanagan echoed the concerns Commissioner Title stated with respect to donations to SEP vendors. The Commission works to maintain the highest ethical standards and Commissioner Flanagan requested a more in-depth conversation of this topic at a future meeting.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.
• Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.

jj. Top Shelf Cannaseurs, LLC (#MPN281435), Product Manufacturing
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional licenses.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition but also wanted to flag that more documentation should be required when we have an SEP participant that is donating to an organization that is also vendors under the SEP.
  o Proposed condition: resubmit positive impact plan to provide more detail on how donations will be used to positively impact disproportionately impacted people.
• Commissioner Flanagan requested a condition.
Proposed Condition: redraft the positive impact plan to describe the targeted Area of Disproportionate Impact and how the donation to C3N will positively impact that area.

- Commissioner McBride requested a condition, noting that there appears to be a copy and paste error. This may be indicative of not taking sufficient care in drafting these documents, and if so, what impact will that have down the line.
  - Proposed condition: prior to final licensure, revise security plan to note the correct business name.
- Commissioner McBride asked for an additional condition.
  - Proposed condition: prior to final licensure, provide detailed information about the viscosity enhancing agent, including the type of agent and where it will be procured that it intends to use to produce solventless rosin hash oil cartridges.
- The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.
- Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.
- Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
- The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Title, Flanagan, and McBride.

kk. ToroVerde (Massachusetts) III, Inc. (#MRN282629), Retail
- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
- Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  - Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal of hiring 20% of women and veterans to be clearer and objectively reasonable.
- The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
- Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
- Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
- The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

ll. ToroVerde (Massachusetts) II, Inc. (#MRN282320), Retail
- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
- Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  - Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal of hiring 20% of women and veterans to be clearer and objectively reasonable.
- The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
- Commissioner Doyle moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

mm. ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc. (#MRN282601), Retail
• Licensing Manager Defoe presented the staff recommendation for provisional license.
• Commissioner Title requested a condition.
  o Proposed condition: revise diversity plan goal of hiring 20% of women and veterans to be clearer and objectively reasonable.
• The Chairman asked for question and comments and then for a motion to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner McBride moved to approve the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.
• Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the provisional license, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Title.

10) Commission Discussion and Votes

a. Economic Relief for Adult-Use Licensees
• The Chairman gave an overview of the considerations previously discussed for how to provide economic relief for adult-use licensees.
• The Chairman thanked staff, namely the Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer, and Chief Financial Officer.
• The Chairman noted the staff recommended options:
  o Extend license renewals for 60 days, and the associated fees.
    ▪ One motion is adult retailers only.
    ▪ Second motion is for all adult-use licensees.
• Commissioner Title asked whether, if the governor’s order were amended to allow adult-use operations to reopen, either completely or only to Massachusetts residents, the Commission would be able to oversee those operations as we do with medical-use operations.
• The Chairman noted his support for this.
• The Executive Director said the Commission could take steps to support this, if the Governor were to modify his order. This might include facilitating curbside purchases and other modifications to encouraging social distancing the Commission has allowed through a series of bulletins and administrative orders.
• Commissioner Flanagan clarified that the motion being considered covers adult-use business that are currently operating.
  o The Chairman confirmed this.
• Commissioner Doyle moved to provide relief to adult-use Marijuana Establishments, the Commission relies on General Law c. 94G, § 6(a) to move to extend automatically the
term for adult-use establishments expiring in June, July or August 2020 and to waive the regulatory provisions requiring renewal on an annual basis in 935 CMR 500.103(4). Each license will be valid for one (1) year plus the maximum extension term, an additional sixty (60) days. Renewal applicants may seek renewal anytime during the maximum extension term, so long as they pay the renewal fees required under 935 CMR 500.005 and submit their application in accordance with 935 CMR 500.103(4)(a). On seeking renewal, applicants must demonstrate compliance with the remaining regulatory requirements or obtain a waiver under 935 CMR 500.850. This extension does not relieve licensees of their associated legal obligations, including obligations to the municipality or other state agencies.

- Commissioner Title seconded the motion.
- The Commission approved the motion by a vote of four in favor (Doyle, McBride, Hoffman, Title) and one against (Flanagan).
- The Chairman echoed Commissioner Title’s comments that the Commission is aware that this is not enough to fully provide relief, but hopefully it provides some help.

b. Policy Vote & Update: Delivery & Pre-certification

- The Chairman gave an overview of the topic and thanked the Executive Director and the staff for bringing this to fruition.
- The Executive Director noted that staff has been working on the delivery application. What makes this unique is a pre-certification, aspect followed by a full license application as a follow up. The licensing team, technology team, and vendor are prepared to roll this out this month, as of May 28th. In order to do that, however, staff wanted to update the Commission and seek delegation and certain decisions to put final steps in place.
- The Precertification process will be in the MassCIP, priority and expedited reviews will apply. The first question is with respect to the contents of the pre-certification. The suitability review for the pre-certification will be based on the disclosures of the applicants rather than a full background check and fingerprint check.
- The staff is asking that precertifications can be approved based on the disclosure suitability review.
- The second request is delegation to the Executive Director to approve precertification, as is done with agent applications. This would allow for an efficient process, and not require review by the Commission, knowing that the full application will become before the Commission with a full background check later in the process.
- Commissioner McBride asked the Executive Director to talk the Commission through what precertification will entail.
  - The Executive Director explained that precertification will consist predominantly of the business information, similar to what is included in the application of intent, such as business plans, insurance plans, as well as some operating procedures, knowing that some of these procedures will be location dependent. The precertification will not require HCA, Diversity Plan, Bond/Escrow requirements, Positive Impact Plan.
• Commissioner McBride asked with respect to delegating approval authority, whether the Commission will still be able to review all the information provided as part of the precertification as they would normally as part of the regular commission review.
  o The Executive Director confirmed this.
  o Commissioner McBride followed up to ask how to avoid redundancy through this process
  o The Executive Director said that the new auto filling element of Mass CIP will allow things to be updated but avoid duplication when filling out the complete full application for provisional license. Based on this plan, the Commission will still have the opportunity to review and comment. The Executive Director likened this process to a mortgage pre-qualification.
• Commissioner Title thanked staff and noted that it may be hard for folks to know what to include in a self-disclosure and asked if the Commission could provide a guidance to help people to know how to request their own information and make a disclosure to help ensure people are providing the information they should, and not be caught off guard.
  o The Executive Director said that staff would explore providing additional resources on this matter.
• Commissioner Title said she supports the delegation, but it might limit information that the Commission has with respect to issues that come up over time. She requested a cross-functional team to look at all the issues that the Commission cannot predict, modeled after the regulations process and to ensure the interpretations are being recorded and disclosed as appropriated. Lastly, Commissioner Title asked, as decisions are being made and questions are being answered, that the Commission publish those answers as a resource to industry.
  o The Executive Director said he thinks a cross functional team makes sense, but the licensing process stays within licensing, and in certain instances, licensing has been firewalled from other divisions, but knowing that this is a new process, staff can consider how to use cross functional communication to ensure the process considers many aspects and informs the Commission. The Executive Director also noted that the plan for the roll out will include a living document of frequently asked questions.
• Commissioner Doyle first thanked the staff for all the work and with respect to outreach, there needs to be a municipal outreach to make sure municipalities understand this new, unique process to help licensees engender positive relationships as they move forward.
  o The Executive Director acknowledged the importance of municipalities as important partners in this process.
• Commissioner McBride asked Commissioner Title about her recommendation with respect to the cross functional team she referenced and what issues it would be addressing.
  o Commissioner Title said that if there was a question that is not addressed in the regulations, that group can work to develop an answer and take a recommendation to the Executive Director or Commission as appropriate.
• Commissioner Flanagan thanked the staff for the work that went into this. Commissioner Flanagan expressed her timing concern given the current crisis, having delivery starting under these circumstances.
  o Commissioner Title expressed her view that this is a time when Delivery is all the more relevant. Commissioner Title expressed that this was already delayed in order to (1) ensure that all the public health and safety concerns, and (2) conduct outreach to municipalities.
  o Commissioner McBride said that when social distancing started, Commissioner McBride said she would be loathe to issue a new license in the midst of this crisis. Commissioner McBride said that there will be issues that arise that no one foresaw. But given the thought put into these applications by staff, Commissioner McBride said she has renewed confidence with respect to moving forward with pre-certification, understanding that the Commission needs to do municipal and public outreach and answering all of the questions that municipalities, the public, and future applicants may have. Commissioner McBride acknowledged the concerns raised by Commissioner Flanagan and Title, but we have the raw information to answer questions. Commissioner McBride also noted that while some people may be staying at home, the illicit market is not staying home, and delivery provides the Commission with a tool to chip away at the illicit market.
• Commissioner McBride moved that the suitability application for pre-certification be based on applicant disclosures.
• Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion.
• The Commission voted to approve the motion by a vote of four in favor (Doyle, McBride, Hoffman, Title) and one against (Flanagan).
• Commissioner Title moved that to delegate the decision to approve precertification applications to the Executive Director, provided that the Executive Director provide a monthly update on the precertification as part of application data.
• Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
• The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

2. Minimum Equity Threshold for Economic Empowerment
• The Chairman gave an overview of the topic there has been a broader communication of staff interpretation of what equity level an Economic Empowerment Applicant must maintain in order to retain that status.
• As that interpretation became more widely discussed, it spurred feedback and has caused the Commission to want to have a discussion
• Commissioner McBride provided context for how the Commission got to where it is today. This isn’t really a matter of interpretation. There is a regulation that states “an applicant who demonstrated and continues to demonstrate three or more of the following criteria.” Looking back at the Commissions previous regulations, the definition of Economic Empowerment Applicant is different than today. The previous regulations did not have a requirement of a continuing demonstration of Economic Empowerment Applicant status. This conversation raises issues about when the Commission changes policy, how is it infiltrating the entire agency and how is it being communicated outward.
Commissioner McBride expressed that this background allayed some of her concerns, but this stresses the importance of having a cohesive perspective and voice.

- Commissioner Doyle recalled that in the spring of 2018, the Commission discussed what needed to be in place for an ongoing evaluation of Economic Empowerment Applicant status.
- Commission Title echoed her support for Commissioner McBride’s comments and proposed that the Commission vote to undo the interpretation in question and reaffirm that entities must maintain 51% ownership and control in order to take advantage of benefits related to EEA status, until the Commission decides otherwise with appropriate process and opportunity for public input.
- The Chairman said he agrees with Commissioner Title’s recommendation but did express his understanding that Economic Empowerment Applicants can be benefited by flexibility with respect to capital structure. He also said that in addition to the recommendation, he would recommend that there be grandfathering of three entities who are now below 51% due to the previous change.
- Commissioner McBride asked for clarity with respect to whether it was three applications or licensees. Commissioner McBride asked what was the trigger event that would have changed the status of the applicants.
- The Chairman said the event was this vote and discussion.
- The Executive Director said the three referenced were licensees, some of which have multiple licenses. The license dates range from November 2019 through March of 2020.
- Commissioner McBride expressed she wants to be sure that no one in the application queue that would be negatively affected.
- The Executive Director said that staff would have to research if there would be a negative impact on applicants. The Executive Director also noted that a notice went out to all applicants/licensees saying that 10% ownership of is sufficient, so a contrary decision by the Commission would require sending a new notice.
- Commissioner Doyle said that an evaluation needs to be done with respect to how this could impact contracts.
- Commissioner Title noted that with respect to grandfathering, there are 3 licensees with 8 licenses that have received the benefit of EEA and suggested that while they already received priority review, they should not receive any other benefits related to EEA status from this point forward.
- Commissioner Title moved to direct the Executive Director to reissue the bulletin with a plain reading interpretation of the regulations with respect to the required ownership threshold for Economic Empowerment Applicants.
- Commissioner McBride seconded the motion.
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

11) New Business that the Chairman did not anticipate at time of posting

- The Chairman recognized that this was the last meeting with Commissioner Doyle and each Commissioner took time to express appreciation and admiration for Commissioner Doyle.
12) Next Meeting Date
   • June 4, 2020 – Location TBD

13) Adjournment
   • The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn.
   • Commissioner McBride moved to adjourn.
   • Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion.
   • The Commission unanimously voted to adjourn.