



Local Cannabis Control Commission Meeting - Monday, September 19, 2022, Contois Auditorium OR REMOTELY via ZOOM 9/19/2022

BURLINGTON LOCAL CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

CITY HALL – CONTOIS AUDITORIUM *OR*

REMOTE MEETING WITH CALL-IN

BURLINGTON, VERMONT

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 19, 2022

.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Paul

Joan Shannon

Perri Freeman (via Zoom)

Zoraya Hightower

Mark Barlow

Joe Magee

Gene Bergman

Ben Traverse

Miro Weinberger

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephen Ellis

Katherine Schad

Hayley McClenahan

1.0 AGENDA



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City Council President Paul called the meeting to order at 8:20 PM.

MOTION by Commissioner Shannon, SECOND by Commissioner Traverse, to adopt the agenda.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2.0 DELIBERATIVE AGENDA

2.01 Election of Chair

Commissioner Shannon nominated Karen Paul to be the Chair of the Local Cannabis Control Board.

There were no other nominations.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2.02 2022 Local Cannabis Control Applications

MOTION by Commissioner Shannon, SECOND by Commissioner Traverse, to approve and recommend to the Local Cannabis Control Commission that it authorize transmission of local approval of the following local cannabis control license applications to the Cannabis Control Board, upon satisfaction of all municipal operation requirements, including zoning approval and permitting; compliance with signage requirements; and, passage of all health, safety, building, fire, and water inspections and/or signoffs: Ceres Collaborative, Green State Dispensary, Stash Farm, LLC, and Grass Queen, Inc.

DISCUSSION:

- Commissioner Shannon commended City staff for their diligence in developing a process to obtain licensure for businesses by October 1. She expressed frustration at the State's reluctance to disclose information on the companies seeking these licenses. She asked whether the Applicants would be willing to briefly share information about their businesses and operations, in an effort to be as transparent as possible to the public.
- Russ Cody of Ceres Collaborative, Brooke Jenkins of Green State Dispensary, and Jahaela of Grass Queen, Inc., briefly spoke about their business locations and proposed hours of operation.
- Commissioner Barlow noted that one of the establishments is quite close to Champlain Elementary School. He said that it is likely outside of the 500-foot buffer zone, and said that the City could adopt additional



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ordinances to extend the buffer zone to 1,000 feet if necessary. If they did so, he asked whether those ordinances would apply to any of these establishments, if they are between that 500-foot and 1,000-foot buffer. Assistant City Attorney McClenahan replied that the City has municipal regulatory authority through zoning regulations, the regulation of signage, and the regulation of public nuisances.

- Commissioner Bergman noted that two of the applications tonight are in relatively close proximity to schools (though not within the current buffer zone). He asked what the license term is. Commissioner Shannon replied that the term is for one year, and is an annual license. Commissioner Bergman expressed concerns about rushing the process.
- Commissioner Weinberger said that the City's process on regulating retail cannabis has been deliberate, thoughtful, and slow. He noted that the City administration is not recommending additional regulations at this time.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

3.01 Motion to adjourn

The meeting adjourned without objection at 8:46 PM.

