



**Cannabis Advisory Committee
Minutes
Remote Participation via Zoom
June 15, 2023 @ 1:00pm**

Board Members: Barry Rector (Chair), James Cooper, Abby DeMolina, Dorothy Hertz,
Joe Plandowski, Jacques Zimicki, Select Board (TBD)

I. Call to Order

Chair Rector called the meeting to order at approximately 1:14pm.

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Abby DeMolina Aye
Joe Plandowski Aye
Jacques Zimicki Aye
Barry Rector (Chair) Aye

Quorum was established

Public:

Dan Berger
Nicole Campbell (arrived at 2:06 pm)

II. Remotely Conducted Open Meetings Statement

Chair Rector read a prepared statement in accordance with Governor Baker's March 21, 2020 order regarding open meeting law, which outlines how the meeting is conducted via remote participation and states the ground rules for any discussion.

III. Approval of Agenda

A moment of silence was held for Jamie Topham, son of Dorothy Hertz.

Mr. Plandowski made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. DeMolina.

Vote taken by Roll Call:

Abby DeMolina Aye
Joe Plandowski Aye
Jacques Zimicki Aye
Barry Rector (Chair) Aye

Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of Draft Minutes

Tabled by consent.

V. Public Comment

No public comment received.

VI. Day and Time of Scheduled Meetings

There was a request from a member to examine changing the date and or time of the Cannabis Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. Chair Rector informally polled the group and members were content with the current date / time of the meetings.

VII. Election of Officers

The Chair requested that this matter be continued until a full board is present. Tabled by consent.

VIII. Meeting with Town Manager – April 18, 2023

Mr. Rector had a meeting with Mrs. Libby Gibson, Town Manager, to inquire about any cannabis related issues with the Town. Mrs. Gibson was generally satisfied with the work of the CAC.

IX. Preliminary Discussion with Dan Berger, Grassp Ventures LLC

The Chair introduced Mr. Dan Berger who has been waiting to formally dialogue with the members of the CAC about changes to the current cannabis bylaws in place for Nantucket. He also stated that he has interest in opening a cannabis related business on Nantucket. Mr. Berger states he has worked intimately in the cannabis industry, has opened three dispensaries and is the co-founder of Grassp Ventures, LLC. Mr. Berger denoted that he qualifies for the State's Social Equity program and would like to conduct a cannabis business on Nantucket under that program. Changes he wished to make to the bylaws included removal of the 2000 foot buffer for co-location of facilities; allowance for home use occupation; integrating delivery and social consumption licenses and streamlining definitions to consolidate the regulations. Mr. Berger articulated the benefits of these proposed changes siting enhanced efficiency and adaptability within the industry; fostering more competitive markets; supporting entrepreneurship in small businesses all while aligning with the State's social equity initiative; and lastly to bring clarity to the current Town regulations regarding the cannabis industry. Mr. Berger has approached the Select Board about possibly obtaining a future license with the Town. He stated he has interest in Nantucket on opening a social cafe and a delivery service. He wished to work more closely with the CAC in achieving his goals. Chair Rector invited the committee members to comment and ask questions. Mr. Plandowski denoted that the first hurdle towards obtaining additional licenses centered on changing the current bylaws with the approval of Town Meeting. With the

additional license, Mr. Plandowski was concerned with how it would affect the two current businesses on the island. Mr. Berger stated that licenses were associated with Adult-use retail facilities. Mr. Berger's denoted that his business proposals for social consumption and delivery did not fall under the scope of a license cap. Mr. Berger also mentioned that the State has recently approved both cannabis businesses related to delivery and social consumption. Mr. Berger noted there would still be a number of hurdles to overcome such as obtaining a Host Community Agreement and complying with Zoning and Chapter 95 regulations. Mr. Plandowski mentioned the need for two drivers when conducting a cannabis delivery service. Additionally, Mr. Plandowski raised the issue where Mr. Berger would be obtaining his cannabis supply from to run his businesses. Mr. Rector called on Ms. DeMolina for her comments. Ms. DeMolina noted that the social consumption model was widely popular throughout Europe. She stated there may be some successful models that could be used to assist in creating a social café. Mr. Plandowski inquired what was Mr. Berger's first step in this process. Mr. Berger commented that he would be looking at social consumption and a number of different models based upon conversations with the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC). Mr. Berger stated that in order to proceed, the current regulations on Nantucket would need to be changed before pursuing a business. The Chair next called on Mr. Zimicki for comment, he had none. Mr. Rector stated that Annual Town Meeting (ATM) was the place where all these proposed changes would need to take place, possibly ATM24. It would require changes to the Zoning bylaws, especially targeted to commercial zoning districts. As well, Town Council would need to be engaged early in the process for both zoning (chapter 139) and chapter 95 bylaws. Changes to these bylaws could either take place as a citizen's warrant article(s) or as Town sponsored articles. The Chair called on each member to determine whether the CAC would be willing to support initiatives to forward both cannabis social consumption and delivery services on Nantucket.

Vote taken by Roll Call:

Abby DeMolina Aye

Joe Plandowski Aye

Jacques Zimicki Aye

Barry Rector (Chair) Aye

X. Nantucket Community Host Agreement with the Green Lady

Chair Rector stated he had sent an email to each CAC member regarding the Host Community Agreement (HCA) with the Green Lady. The HCA has been in place for close to five years and is due for renewal. In renewing the HCA, the Town and Green Lady can renegotiate new terms to the HCA. Mr. Rector noted that since the inception of the cannabis industry on Nantucket, there have been many changes both locally and at the CCC. Mrs. Gibson has requested the CAC to review the HCA and give any comments or changes from the CAC back to her by July 3rd. The Chair requested that the CAC members forward their comments to him by June 28th. The CAC had previously reviewed the Green Lady's HCA back in July 2022 and had made some comments and proposed changes. This document was distributed as an attachment to the current CAC members as a baseline to work from.

XI. Request from Town Administration to draft Local Rules regarding Cannabis Industry

The Town Manager asked the CAC members to review Nantucket's bylaws regarding the cannabis industry. The Chair thought it best that he initially converse with Town Council, Nicole Costanza (K&P Law), before undertaking this request. This was especially important with the new changes being proposed by the CCC. Once this was done, the Chair would reengage with the CAC members with the latest information and advisements before continuing the process.

XI. Next meeting

- a. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 1:00PM
- b. Next tentatively scheduled meeting July 20, 2023

XII. Adjournment

The Chair noted with the departure of Jason Bridges as the Select Board representative, there would be a new appointment made on June 28th. Chair Rector expressed his appreciation to the CAC members for their hard work and dedication.

A motion was made by Mr. Plandowski and seconded by Mr. Zimicki to adjourn the meeting at approximately 2:12pm. Ms. DeMolina left before the roll call vote.

Board Members:

Joe Plandowski *Aye*
Jacques Zimicki *Aye*
Barry Rector (Chair) *Aye*

Motion approved unanimously.