

Town of New Marlborough  
Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee  
Meeting July 23, 2018  
Organizational Meeting

Members present: Jackson Liscombe, Michael Shocket, Eric Schaefer, Barbara Kelly, Bill Kelly, Eugene Cleary, Barbara Marchione, Sandra Fusco Walker, Rebecca Schreiber & Daniel Doern.

In Attendance: Tara White, Board of Selectman, and Jamie Mullen, Planning Board.

The Meeting opened at 6:00 pm.

First order of business was the election of Officers:

Motion made for Dan Doern to be Chair, seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Motion made for Eugene Cleary to be a Vice Chair, which was declined by Eugene.

Motion made for Becky Schreiber to be Vice Chair, seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Motion made for Barbara Marchione to be Clerk, seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Chairman Doern makes a motion to allow Jeff Wallman to participate remotely by phone. Approved by committee.

Review of scope and objectives of the Ad Hoc committee:

To assist the Planning Board in a timely manner, consistent with the Moratorium scheduled (July 1, 2018) in understanding the Townspeople's preference for what type of Cannabis facility they are willing to accept in town and under what conditions.

A question was asked regarding what the Planning Board was going to do with the information that this Committee relays to them. Dan stated that we were looking for openness and transparency, not only with the Open Meeting law but also with the Town Boards. Mr. Mullen did speak up and said that there had been a recommendation that the Committee write the By-Law. That was not in our scope of intent. After discussion, that issue was tabled for a later date.

Discussion resumed on drafting a proposal, or working with the Planning Board to draft a proposal.

It was noted that Sandisfield is hosting an Open Meeting workshop, August 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm at the Firehouse in Sandisfield.

Discussion was held regarding the 8 different options for By-Laws. These were reviewed with the Committee by Dan Doern. There are several different options as to what type of By-Law would pertain to our Town, regarding Growing, Selling, & Processing of Cannabis.

The discussion went forward and comments were made: we are not addressing health hazards, and we're not part of this Board to present our opinions, but to gather information and opinions of the Townspeople. There was a discussion about talking to just voters, or all taxpayers, including second homeowners.

There was a brief discussion about what the State is working on: Cannabis "Café's" or Bed and Breakfast uses. Apparently, the State is working on a law regarding this, and this is beyond the scope of what this Committee is working on, at this point.

There was discussion to bring in experts and advisors to give legal advice, and to bring information as to what similar type Communities are doing in regard to this situation.

Mr. Mullen was asked if the Planning Board was working on a zoning issue, in regard to factories. He responded that zoning should be in place, but we're under time restraints in regard to this Cannabis issue, so basically we're working in reverse on zoning.

At this point, Barbara asked Dan if he could give the Committee homework, sending links from the Commonwealth for the committee to study and to better educate us on the Commonwealth's new laws.

We asked Rebecca to come up with a list of people who might come in and talk to us. Mentioned were Gwen Miller from Lenox, Town Planner; KP Law Chris Gruber.

Lastly, Dan went over a pretty robust schedule for us, including meetings, public forums and possibly door to door visits, to see what the community wants.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Marchione

Clerk