

Medical Marijuana Ordinance
Meeting Minutes 12/22/15

Meeting called to order at 07:13pm by Chairman MacMaster

Committee members present – Diann Perkins, Les MacMaster, Sarah Gormady

Agenda Item 1 – New Member Dan Drake.

Dan Drake has recently purchased a property in Cornish and has asked to join the committee. Conversation among members present approved Dan joining the group.

When asked to self-declare, Dan declared himself as a Qualifying Patient.

This is important in determining committee membership as it relates to current and future members.

The committee now has one Primary Caregiver, two Qualifying Patients and two Concerned Citizens that have self-declared.

Agenda Item 2 – Survey of surrounding towns with Medical Marijuana Ordinances.

Les started by handing out a spreadsheet of the various demographics for the 17 towns (16 plus Cornish) identified as having some sort of Ordinance regarding Medical Marijuana. The data was obtained from Wikipedia and broke down 2010 census data by household, racial and population data.

Les then reported on his review of the NO TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, OR MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE for the **Town of Gray**, adopted November 1, 2011.

The intention of the ordinance was to prevent use of Medical Marijuana on any Town property and in any Town building. This was accomplished as part of an ordinance that also prevented any alcohol or tobacco use on town property or in town buildings.

Les then reported on his review of the **TOWN OF OXFORD MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION FACILITIES ORDINANCE**, created September 27, 2013.

The intention of the ordinance is to publish the rules for implementation of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act as it relates to Oxford.

The ordinance addressed Dispensaries and Primary Caregivers only. There was no reference to Qualified Patients in the ordinance.

Dispensaries – Town license is required. Site plan required. All necessary building, electrical, plumbing and mechanical permits required. Not more than 1 dispensary allowed in town. Dispensary can't be within 500 ft of any public or private school or residence. Dispensaries may be inspected without notice.

Primary Caregiver – Town license required. All necessary building, electrical, plumbing and mechanical permits required. Primary caregiver cannot cultivate Medical Marijuana within 500 feet of any public or private school or residence. Primary caregivers can be inspected with 24 hour notice.

Sarah reported on **Bridgton**. She described the ordinance as directed at dispensaries. There was no mention of Primary Caregivers or Qualifying Patents. Ordinance was described as fairly standard, but Bridgton allows indoor cultivation only.

Sarah will report on **Biddeford** when her review of the ordinance is complete.

Diann reported on the **Standish** ordinance. It is dispensary oriented, with no mention of Primary caregivers or Qualifying Patients. Ordinance prohibits on-site consumption of Medical Marijuana, unless consumer is a Qualifying Patient Employee.

Diann then reported on **Sanford**. This turned out to be a moratorium on any Dispensaries. The moratorium targets production of Medical Marijuana.

The following assignments were made for the next meeting:

- Brewer – Dan
- OOB – Les
- Portland – Dan
- Skowhegan – Diann
- Waterboro – Sarah

The meeting concluded at 08:17pm.

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00pm at Pike Hall.

Mr. MacMaster identified 16 towns with existing Medical Marijuana Ordinances in place to start our review. A discussion was held on what we want to achieve by examining existing ordinances. It was determined that ordinance review will focus on three areas – 1. What is the intention of the ordinance? 2. – What is allowed and what is restricted? 3. - What are the town demographics (for similarity to Cornish)?.

Committee members will begin review of existing ordinances and report back in two weeks. Ms. Perkins will review Standish and Sanford. Ms. Gormandy will review Biddeford and Bridgton. Mr. Webber will review Caribou and Paris. Mr. MacMaster will review Gray and Oxford.

Ms. Gormandy also suggested that we look at ordinances where recreational marijuana use is legal to get a look at where this issue is headed.

The meeting ended at 08:26pm.

Next scheduled committee meeting is Tues. Dec. 22 at 7:00pm at Pike Hall.