

Medical Marijuana Ordinance
Meeting Minutes 05/12/16

Meeting called to order @ 07:04pm by Chairman MacMaster

Committee members present – Les MacMaster, Mike Fulginiti, Diann Perkins, Dan Drake, Sarah Gormady

There were also seven interested citizens in attendance, including two Planning Board members.

Item 1 – Cornish Ordinance

We reviewed and discussed the Approval Process, State Authorization and Exemptions sections of the proposed ordinance.

Approval Process: We made three modifications to the Approval Process. We changed the abutter notification and mailing responsibility to be consistent with the land use ordinance. We also modified the last sentence to include Maine Revenue Services as part of the notification process.

The Approval Process shall now read:

Any proposal to establish a new, or alter an existing medical marijuana registered dispensary or medical marijuana production facility, shall require approval of the planning board as a conditional use. The planning board and applicant shall follow the application and review process, standards, authority and this ordinance. Notification of site walks and public hearings shall include all property owners within 500 linear feet, measured in a straight line from the property boundary of the proposed dispensary or facility. Notification of property owners shall be mailed at least ten days before the scheduled site walk and public hearing. The planning board shall be responsible for mailing notifications to property owners to the address identified on a mailing list provided by the town. In addition to other public notification requirements, the town shall notify the York County Sheriff's Office, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services, and the Maine Revenue Services prior to the public hearing on any application.

The committee voted 5-0 to approve the Approval Process wording.

State Authorization: We made no changes to the wording for State Authorization.

The State Authorization continues to read:

Before submission of a conditional use application, the applicant must demonstrate their authorization to cultivate, process and store medical marijuana pursuant to the Maine Use of Medical Marijuana Program.

The committee voted 5-0 to approve the State Authorization wording.

Exemptions: We made no changes to the wording for exemptions.

The Exemptions continues to read:

As an accessory use, medical marijuana home production shall be allowed in any qualifying patient's residence or any medical marijuana caregiver's primary year-round residence in every base zone and overlay zone, without any requirements for land use permitting.

The committee voted 5-0 to approve the Exemptions wording.

Item 2 – Medical Marijuana “Social Clubs”

Les noted that there was a proposal to establish a medical marijuana social club recently in Lewiston. We discussed the merits of such a club, and social clubs in general (Masonic Temple, VFW, American Legion, etc). It was noted that anyone in Section 8 housing was prevented from consuming medical marijuana in their residence by federal law. Also, there was a feeling that some patients might feel better sharing common experiences with other members within a medical marijuana social club. We will discuss this topic in depth at future meetings.

Copies of Performance Standards, Medical Marijuana Registered Dispensary Limit, Medical Marijuana Production Facility Limit, Proximity Limit and Proximity Location to Other Uses were handed out for review prior to the next committee meeting. Additionally, a list of “Points Of Consideration” (developed several months ago by the committee) was handed out as a thought generator.

The next meeting will be on Tues 05/24 at 7:00pm at Pike Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 08:57pm