



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER

Amalia Alarcón de Morris, Bureau Director

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110

Portland, Oregon 97204

Promoting a culture of civic engagement

Marijuana Policy Oversight Team

April 6, 2016, 6-7:30 pm

Portland City Hall, Lovejoy Room

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Staff

Claire Adamsick	Office of Commissioner Fritz
Christina Coursey	Marijuana Policy Program
Theresa Marchetti	Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Livability Programs
Brandon Goldner	Marijuana Policy Program
Lina Rodriguez	Marijuana Policy Program
Víctor Salinas	Marijuana Policy Program

MPOT Members

Sam Chapman	New Economy Consulting, LLC
Chris Chiacchierini	Oregon College of Oriental Medicine
Kealii Ching	Marijuana Paradise Medical Dispensary
Beth Cooke	UFCW Local 555
Allan Folz	Piedmont Neighborhood Association
Darilis Garcia-McMillan	Portland Community College
Laurel Moses	Multnomah County Health Department
Randa Shahin	Home Grown Apothecary Medical Dispensary
Sondra Storm	Owner, Hotel Development & Management Company
Meghan Walstatter	Pure Green Medical Dispensary
Helen Ying	Big Village Coalition

ABSENT

MPOT Members

Carolyne Haycraft	GirlStrength, Portland Police Bureau
Jesse Horton	Minority Cannabis Business Association
Antonio Ramirez Subiria	Latino Network
Mayte Veiga-Almeida	Latino Network

ACRONYMS:

BDS	Bureau of Development Services (City of Portland)
LUCS	Land Use Compatibility Statement
MPOT	Marijuana Policy Oversight Team



MPP	Marijuana Policy Program (City of Portland)
MRL	Marijuana Regulatory License
OHA	Oregon Health Authority
OLCC	Oregon Liquor Control Commission

MEETING NOTES

Overview

- **Ground Rules (document attached)**
 - Read ground rules
 - Added request to please not use cell phones during meeting
- **Shared Understandings (document attached)**
 - Provides context and foundation for the work of this group
 - Marijuana use will be discussed in the context of the regulatory framework, for example, in social contexts or youth prevention
- **Scope of Work (document attached)**
 - This group is a mechanism for public input that may inform policy recommendations from the MPP to City Council
 - Reviewed focus areas identified by Commissioner Fritz
 - Overview of “social environments” discussion:
 - All the concerns are parallel to concerns around alcohol. If social environments are allowed for alcohol use, then it may follow that they are allowed for marijuana use
 - Opportunity for Portland to develop marijuana tourism. For example, 40-50,000 people attend High Times. Tourism may be a missed opportunity.
 - Youth prevention strategies – discussion:
 - Questions about whether it’s true that youth now have more access to marijuana
 - Argument that it may be harder for kids to access marijuana in a regulated market
 - Pointed out that there may be data from the state to support that kids have more access
 - This statement is not only about access, it’s about perception that marijuana is more accepted and is not harmful.
 - This statement pulls from the research that says that marijuana is harmful to developing brains
 - This will be an ongoing topic of conversation
- **Brainstorm Group-led Topics**
 - These topics may inform MPP procedure, future committee work, other programs
 - Marijuana tourism
 - Areas of the city where vulnerable population resides/gather
 - Comment from group member that dispensaries are “eyes on the street” because it is a retail outlet – foot traffic, cameras, security.
 - Marijuana advertising (in relation to youth prevention, as well as other issues)
 - Application process

- Discussion of addition of merit-based considerations
 - Impact of smoke in public spaces
 - Second-hand smoking
 - Consideration of studies, data
 - Discussion of a Dropbox where information can be shared
 - Locations of marijuana businesses – how this informs public perception
 - Providing informative/educational materials to community members/underrepresented populations. Creating cultural relevant materials
 - Concern that even translated materials are too “technical” and not easy to understand.
 - Recommendation for focus groups/meetings, versus written materials
 - These concerns have come up at the OLCC as well
 - Fee structure
 - Tax structure – where the money from taxes is allocated
 - Jobs – creating jobs, connecting people with jobs
 - How to connect underrepresented communities with jobs
 - How start business, how to access start-up capital
 - Social consumption
- **Subcommittee discussion**
 - Three subcommittees will be the topics put forth by Commissioner Fritz (see Scope of Work)
 - Other subcommittee topics will be developed from group brainstorm topics
 - Subcommittee meetings will have staff support
 - Concern expressed from MPOT member about only having the three topics put forth by Commissioner Fritz – these topics weren’t chosen by MPOT members
 - These three topics came out of the community and industry discussions in community workgroups
 - The other topics may be pulled into these three
 - These three need to be addressed before August
 - There will be other subcommittees and work can occur consecutively
 - There will be opportunities to address all issues and to prioritize certain items.
 - Immediacy will feel different to different people.
 - This is where Commissioner Fritz has asked us to start.
 - This provides structure.
 - **ACTION:** MPP staff will follow-up with members about deciding subcommittee topics
- **Other Discussion**
 - Concern about focus on illegal market. Why this focus when we’re not concerned about other illegal markets
 - Pointed out that the structure of the city program impact illegal market (for example, if it’s taxed too high, people will go to illegal market)
 - People having access and selling to kids
 - If we don’t address how to address illegal industry
 - Marijuana illegal market has a very strong hold in this area and the US because the legal market is still so new
 - Language: black market vs. white market – legal vs. legal market

- There has been feedback from community about using the terms “legal market” and “illegal market,” and this will be the terminology used by the group moving forward
- Legal market is trying to create incentives to participate and leave the illegal market

MPOT LOGISTICS

- **Scheduling**
 - Meeting every other month. Next meeting: June 22.
 - Expectation that there will be work done in MPOT meetings, in subcommittee meetings, and some outside of official meetings
- **Discuss possible May meeting**
 - Proposal of meeting in May to get started on work on policy recommendations on issues that will be addressed by City Council in August.
 - **ACTION:** There is interest in having a May meeting to discuss City Council’s legislative agenda. Lina will email members with options for a May meeting date

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Marijuana processor:
 - Excited to be here for the fruition of a truly grassroots movement
 - Recommendation: create a subcommittee to address licensing procedures
 - Recommendation: include a developmental services representative, at least on a licensing subcommittee
 - There is a processor on the MPOT – he could not attend tonight’s meeting
 - Kudos to ONI – he said the LUCS process was much easier than he anticipated – “actually pleasant”
- MPP staff noted that there may be guest speakers from other departments (request for BDS)
- Concern that security plans have been posted on the website
 - MPP staff commented that Control Plans are posted, not Security Plans
 - She is an attorney
 - Wondering about mechanism for complaining about application process
 - Her clients are confused about application process
 - MPP staff asked what might help clarify the process, invited to share concerns at meeting or after meeting
 - Gaps in understanding, especially about specific terms. Specifically about people not understanding that BDS is different from ONI
 - MPOT member shared that at OSHA, representatives from various groups got together and created educational materials and had a forum where business representatives could learn.
 - MPP staff held similar forums last year – proposal for more
 - Several members expressed agreement with this
 - Speaker from the state of Georgia. She is working with clients interested in investing in marijuana businesses
 - She’s been really “blown away and amazed” with the knowledge of State and City employees and the material available. From someone sitting on

the sidelines and has been tracking the work in many states, the people she's spoken with have been really thoughtful, competent

- Looking for updates with residency requirements. She works with a lot of out-of-state investors
- Local private investor, looking into marijuana industry
 - Looking specifically at what constraints will be faced by businesses in Portland

ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING:

- **June 22**
- **There will be a meeting in May, date TBD**