



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**

**May 18, 2016, 6-7:30 pm  
Portland City Hall, Lovejoy Room**

**Minutes**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Staff**

<b>Theresa Marchetti</b>	ONI, Livability Programs Manager
<b>Víctor Salinas</b>	Marijuana Policy Program
<b>Christina Coursey</b>	Marijuana Policy Program
<b>Lina Rodriguez</b>	Marijuana Policy Program
<b>Brandon Goldner</b>	Marijuana Policy Program
<b>Claire Adamsick</b>	Office of Commissioner Fritz

**MPOT Members**

<b>Sam Chapman</b>	New Economy Consulting, LLC
<b>Kealii Ching</b>	Marijuana Paradise Medical Dispensary
<b>Beth Cooke</b>	UFCW Local 555
<b>Allan Folz</b>	Piedmont Neighborhood Association
<b>Darilis Garcia-McMillan</b>	Portland Community College
<b>Carolyn Haycraft</b>	GirlStrength, EPIC, Portland Police Bureau
<b>Jesce Horton</b>	Dispensary Owner, Minority Cannabis Business Association
<b>Laurel Moses</b>	Multnomah County Health Department
<b>Antonio Ramirez Subiria</b>	Latino Network
<b>Randa Shahin</b>	Home Grown Apothecary Medical Dispensary
<b>Sondra Storm</b>	Owner, Hotel Development & Management Company
<b>Meghan Walstatter</b>	Pure Green Medical Dispensary
<b>Helen Ying</b>	Big Village Coalition

**ABSENT**

**MPOT Members**

<b>Kovi Altamirano</b>	Big Village
<b>Mayte Veiga-Almeida</b>	Latino Network

**ACRONYMS:**

<b>EPIC</b>	East Portlanders Inspiring Change
<b>MPOT</b>	Marijuana Policy Oversight Team
<b>MPP</b>	Marijuana Policy Program (City of Portland)



<b>MRL</b>	Marijuana Regulatory License
<b>OHA</b>	Oregon Health Authority
<b>OLCC</b>	Oregon Liquor Control Commission
<b>ONI</b>	City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement

## **MEETING NOTES**

*\*Note: The terms “marijuana” and “cannabis” are used interchangeably, depending on which term the speaker used.*

### **Recap on MPOT overview**

- **Commissioner Fritz/ MPOT focus areas**
  - Reviewed three topic areas put forth by Commissioner Fritz (social consumption, youth prevention, addressing the illegal market)
- **MPOT-generated focus area ranking**
  - Reviewed brainstormed topics from last meeting and the four topics that came out of that. Reviewed how each topic from the brainstorm fit into the four new focus areas. (see attached document)

### **Get to know who is in the room**

- **Participants’ role**
  - Reviewed expectations on participation and commitment, representation, participants’ authority, and relationship between MPOT and subcommittees (see attached document)
  - Questions for MPP staff from MPOT members:
    - (MPOT member) Will this meeting only address process, not content?
      - (MPP staff) This meeting will be about process and establishing shared values. It is important to understand where we are coming from and establish shared values that will inform policy recommendations. The bulk of issue work will happen in subcommittees.
      - (MPOT member) Expressed desire to start addressing issues and frustration that the first two meetings were all about process.
    - (MPOT member) What is the relationship between the MPOT and the MPP? When is it appropriate to talk about changes in the program?
      - (MPP staff) Appropriate in subcommittees that are addressing aspects of the MPP, like application and licensing process.
    - (MPOT member) Brought up the issue of social consumption and changes in MPP around social consumption. Will MPOT be informing program decisions around social consumption?
      - Will not be informing MPP decisions because right now MPP is constrained by State and City statute. The social consumption subcommittee will be making policy recommendations to Commissioner Fritz.
- **Goals in participating**
  - MPOT members each shared their backgrounds and personal reasons and goals in joining the group.
  - Backgrounds included:

- Employment and involvement in various youth programs
- Neighborhood associations and community organizations, including Piedmont Neighborhood Association, EPIC, Latino Network, Big Village, GirlStrength, organizations promoting cannabis education, organizations advocating for drug policy reform, environmental organizations, youth organizations, and others
- Cannabis industry organizations, including Minority Cannabis Business Association, Oregon Cannabis PAC, Oregon Cannabis Association, and others
- Work in schools and communities on preventing youth addiction
- Small business owners, marijuana industry and other industries
- Hotel industry
- Work with unions
- Members of minority communities
- Public health harm reduction
- Master's in Public Health
- Master's in Urban and Regional Planning
- Involvement in legislative process, including co-authoring the law that made medical marijuana legal in Oregon
- Regulation
- Parents
- Personal goals included:
  - Ensuring that the City's marijuana program develops equitably
  - Concrete strategies on how to reduce impact on youth
  - Bring marijuana issues out of the shadows and mitigate effects on community and youth
  - Find middle ground between criminalization and having "pot shops" on every corner
  - Give neighborhood associations the ability to give feedback and have a say in marijuana businesses opening in the area
  - Keep in mind that marijuana is illegal federally and develop a licensing system that protects employees from possible repercussions. Regulations could have a drastic impact on people's lives for doing activities required in doing their jobs.
  - Work with City to develop a more equitable process to bring minorities into the marijuana business as business owners and employees, not just as consumers.
  - In the Latino community – create a bridge between the concerns and perceptions of older generations and how youth think about marijuana.
  - Find the right way to educate youth – especially youth who are at a greater risk of abusing marijuana.
  - Create regulations for businesses to prevent youth access.
  - Find ways for marijuana businesses to put something into the community that addresses youth prevention.
  - Offer positive, but insightful feedback on the social aspects of cannabis from an industry perspective.
  - Address social consumption – having legalized marijuana, it's important to address where people are consuming it. If we don't provide legal places for people to consume, then people will do it in places like park, which impacts communities.

- Use a collaborative process to create policies for this new industry – other states and countries are looking at how we do this
- Tie together youth, health, and economic processes
- Create policies that improve the health of the marijuana industry as a whole, which will affect the Oregon economy – tourism, minority business owners
- Address how environmental issues intersect with the marijuana industry
- Address public safety issues from an industry perspective – these issues are just as important to marijuana business owners and others in the industry as they are to the general public
- Tracking marijuana industry job data
- Educate different levels of government on what is going on in other levels (City, State, County)
- Create a City system that works well with the other systems that are issuing marijuana business licenses.
- Mitigating complications and overregulation in City and State programs that create choke points in licensing process
- Creating safe access to marijuana – addressing the illegal market and keeping marijuana off the streets.
- Create marijuana policies that learn from the pros and cons of alcohol and tobacco policies – opportunity to put Portland on the map for marijuana industry and for doing it in a way that is safe and equitable.
- See the industry develop in a way that provides jobs for the community.
- Look at “second-order” effects of marijuana industry – making sure to think through repercussions of policies
- Creating a marijuana tourism industry

- **Personal values that will inform participation**

- MPOT members shared personal values that they bring to the table and will inform their participation. These values are the personal lenses used when evaluating policy recommendations.
- Values included:
  - Ethics in the marijuana industry
  - Family values
  - Equity in access
  - Sound policy
  - Education
  - Honor and integrity
  - Accountability in the industry, in government, and in community
  - Respect and inclusion of people with different backgrounds and opinions
  - Importance in representation of all communities in government
  - Environmental consciousness
  - Personal freedom and autonomy
  - Trust
  - Honesty
  - Collaboration
  - Freedom of choice – but keeping personal decisions personal
  - Empower people to connect the dots around them and not work in silos, which creates misunderstandings
  - Recognize that there are a lot of unknowns and we don't know all the answers

- Creativity
- Assume that everyone on the MPOT has good intentions
- Relationship-building
- Inclusiveness in policy process
- Informed perspectives

## **MPOT logistics**

### **• Scheduling**

- Scheduling for subcommittees will occur over email
- Subcommittees will meet before June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and present policy recommendations at that meeting.
- First topics to address will be social consumption and reducing illegal market.
  - Request from MPOT member to add the issue of taxes to reducing illegal market. Request approved.
- MPP will assign MPOT member to subcommittees based on their rankings of topics

### **• Announcement from Commissioner Fritz's office**

- Claire Adamsick made an announcement on behalf of Commissioner Fritz
- Commissioner Fritz may be asking the MPOT for their thoughts on how to allocate revenue generated by a 3% tax on marijuana.
  - This tax is already on the books, but it has not been implemented.
  - Clarification – Commissioner Fritz is asking for recommendations on how to allocate the money, not whether or not the tax should be implemented.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- Marijuana business owner
  - Volunteers to train people on how to use marijuana for best results. Has written articles on this topic.
  - Interested in helping to educate the City and other on marijuana use without negative consequences.
  - Marijuana event coordinator – had an event in October and feels it could be a model for how to do marijuana events well. No consumption of alcohol at this event, but thinks that there are responsible ways to consume both marijuana and alcohol and hopes the City addresses this issue.
- Owner of a cannabis farm
  - Has worked in the medical field and has seen trauma associate with drugs and alcohol in society.
  - Was part of a system that fed pharmaceuticals to people without understanding the effects. He knows the positive effects of this plant and so does the government because the government has a patent on the neuro properties of CBD, even though they classify marijuana as a felony.
  - Understands City budget constraints and wants to move forward in helpful, reasonable policies that support local businesses and protect our communities.
  - Industry and community are here to support each other.
- Event coordinator
  - Has done a series of cannabis events in Portland and is concerned with the immediate changes in enforcement around social consumption. She plans meaningful gatherings where people come together in social environments

- Wants to keep doing what she loves doing but is afraid again of being prosecuted for marijuana-related offenses. Wants to conduct her business legally.
  - Comment from MPP Coordinator: Event coordinators, please call MPP. This is a developing area of policy and MPP will talk to you about how to hold events legally.
- Co-author of Measure 91
  - We said we want to treat cannabis the way we treat beer and wine and bring people into the legal market.
  - We need to keep fees and taxes down and eliminate barriers.
  - Using City resources to investigate adults sharing marijuana at events is not what we voted for.
- Event coordinator
  - It's short-sighted to wait to address tourism and social consumption. People are already coming to Portland for social consumption.
  - People need a place to smoke – many people are restricted from smoking at home because they have small children or landlords don't allow, but still want to enjoy cannabis.
  - Concerned that we'll be backpedaling in a year and saying, yes, come to Portland, but people will already be going to Denver.
- Marijuana cultivator and massage therapist
  - One of the best ways to educate people on the effects of marijuana is at effects.
  - Can't answer questions if there is no open forum for events.
  - Marijuana tourism will be big and it will be a downfall for the industry if it's not addressed soon.

## **ADJOURN**

### **NEXT MEETING:**

- **June 22, 2016**