

Recreational Marijuana Task Force
Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2017

Members Present: Councilor Terry Berry (Chair), John Shaw (proponent), Louis Sigel (proponent), Karen Tucker (opponent), Jack McMillin (opponent), Jaime Schorr (opponent), Interim City Manager Ann Davis (ex-officio) Police Chief Jim Toman (ex-officio), Code Enforcement Officer Barb Skelton (ex-officio) and Executive Assistant Robin Plourde.

Members Absent: Curtis Ayotte

Chair Berry called the meeting to order at 6pm in the City Council Room. Review of 2-28-17 meeting minutes tabled until next week.

Code Officer Barb Skelton mentioned to the chair that if he got all information to city staff they could in turn make sure all members get it.

Chair Berry suggested 3 separate meetings as follows: 1. Regarding Retail Sales 2. Smoking Clubs and 3. Production.

John Shaw would like the City to create a business that not all other cities have.

Karen Tucker – we will be learning new information and suggest discussions and go from there. Council wants pros and cons from us, task force should have a written statement on what we want to take to the council.

Anne Davis- We have 6 more meetings after tonight.

Ceo Skelton- if the task force needs more time beyond the May 3rd deadline more dates could be set up.

Jaime – what are we presenting to the council? Is the goal to make various recommendations on various subjects, is this what we come up with or a combination of us and the public?

Chair Berry-We have 3 subjects to address. 1. Retail Sales 2. Smoking Clubs and 3. Production.

Ann- the task force needs to show and explain the vote to council.

Chair Berry- And show how we did come to that recommendation.

Jack: We should combine the public input with the experts all at once for the sake of time schedule.

Has anyone been inquiring with the city?

CEO- yes, I have had a 3 or 4 inquiries. I have explained that we have no laws yet and that the task force is working on it.

Louis: shared with the committee that after he testified in front of the legislature a gentleman approached him and told him he was very interested in opening a retail shop in Gardiner.

Ann- you can always ask for an extension.

CEO- caution the task force, for a State Moratorium you need to prove that you are moving forward but need more time.

Ann- so the schedule as of now is: March 14th tour of Wellness Center at 6pm, then back to city hall.

March 21st The Experts/Public for Retail

March 28th Public vote on Retail

April 4th Social Club discussion

April 18th Vote on Social Clubs

John: how do we find an expert for social clubs?

Jaime- Each of us could do some research to bring back to the committee, we could maybe do a webinar with another town that has a social club.

CEO- all meetings/information are available to the public.

Chair Berry- asked members of the committee if they were all comfortable with the plan so far.

All members in agreement with plan at this point.

Jack made a motion to adjourn, second by John. Motion passed by unanimous vote

Adjourn at 7:15

Submitted by Robin Plourde