

Town of Waldoboro
Marijuana Committee Minutes
October 21, 2019

1. Call to Order

Attending members at the starting time of 4:00 pm: Surran Pyne, Renee Grover, Freeman Zausner, and Max Johnstone for minutes.

2. Old Business

a. Scope of Committee

Surran asked if the Committee was formally charged by the Select Board; Max and Freeman confirmed that was what the Select Board voted on. Freeman said that the Select Board wants the Marijuana Committee to determine if the Town of Waldoboro should establish new rules that would work within the current State limits.

Max mentioned that new rules for medical marijuana caregiver stores have been created to provide a definition that was absent from the previous amendment.

Renee wanted a clarification of what the purpose of the Marijuana Committee is because of the discussions of putting things to town votes; Max said that the Committee should be focusing on medical caregivers with non-domicile offices since that is the area that has no rules in Waldoboro. Max continued by saying the Committee should focus on the recommendations and should not think about ballot dates for medical caregiver regulations.

Surran asked Renee to provide expert opinions on this topic; Renee responded that her focus is security and safe growth techniques (equipment, testing, etc.). Renee wanted this to avoid another burned house like the one near Route 1 that supposedly burned down due to poor fire suppression. Renee added that the State of Maine already has security and other requirements she wants, but believes items there are some places that Waldoboro could address if we recognize what can be enforced.

b. Medical Dispensary

Max said that he has amendments for the Land Use Ordinance that would remove Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, but that has been put on hold since the Planning Board needs to have a public hearing before it is put to a vote by the municipal legislature. Surran asked about creating caregiver restrictions; Max said that that hasn't been established in the Land Use/ zoning ordinance yet, so it does not need Planning Board discussion. Max also said that the town attorney should be involved when we have an ordinance ready. Surran asked if there are other town examples we can use; Renee said it's still a new field; Freeman said there are some towns that have vastly different ways to tackle it.

Max wants to have the Committee review the Dispensary changes next meeting so they can be put forward for a town vote by June. Renee said the Committee should not be about discussing sending things to a vote yet; Max responded that he is just pointing out

when deadlines for town votes will happen and that we should be aware of dates; Freeman also mentioned that Waldoboro has a moratorium will be expiring in March that would need to be extended. Max does not want the Marijuana Committee to be focused on the dispensary item and that is why he wants one meeting to review the changes and provide a recommendation.

c. Meetings

Max proposed to have the members voice what they would like at meetings and he would handle compiling the marijuana ordinance section-by-section between meetings that would then be reviewed at the following meeting. Once the section has been reviewed with suggested changes, then the rest of the meeting can discuss the next portion of the ordinance. Max said that when we have completed the marijuana ordinance, the Committee would then invite the town attorney to review the document.

Freeman wanted time set aside for Renee to help educate the Committee about this topic from her perspective. Max said there could be two meetings a month, where one meeting would be an education meeting while the other meeting would be ordinance work.

Surrar wants to make sure that Ted and Amanda (the two members who have not been in attendance for either meeting) can attend these meetings. Max called both Ted and Amanda; Ted said he is fine for anytime, but Amanda has been difficult to get a hold of. Max wanted to hold off deciding when both meeting times would be if Ted and Amanda are not in attendance, but can still do the meeting originally scheduled for November 18th at 4:00 pm.

ADJOURN