

Town of Waldoboro
Marijuana Committee Minutes
July 28, 2020 held Remotely via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Attending members at the starting time of 2:15 pm: Surran Pyne, Freeman Zausner, Renee Grover, and Max Johnstone for minutes.

Attending guests: Mike Thayer

2. Minutes

For December 16th minutes, Freeman asked to remove the last sentence after the word 'smoke' when discussing Cumberland's monitoring standards.

Max asked for the January 27th meeting minutes (with no quorum) to still be approved since there were important items being discussed.

June 15th minutes had no proposed changes.

Freeman-Renee motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed 3-0.

3. Environmental Impact (Old Business)

Surran wanted Mike and Renee to attend the same meeting to discuss discharge, utility usage, and maintenance regarding the cultivation of marijuana.

Renee said that most caregivers do not overwater plants and potential mold is monitored. Renee also mentioned that any chemicals used on cannabis plants easily kill the plants so natural oils are primarily the source for maintenance. Surran asked if chemicals are used for harvesting; Renee said no. Mike said regulation for nitrogen going into the groundwater may want to be considered for larger use, but said a small-scale operation would not have the same problem especially if they are using oils such as garlic oil; Renee added that the State of Maine requires people using pesticides to have a license to use it on products. Mike also brought up the manufacturing of hash oil that can either use harmful chemicals or use a mechanical press. Surran asked Renee if she is aware of anyone doing this; Renee said she does not, and people would have to register with the State for who grows and who processes.

Mike wanted to know if it is possible to have the Fire Department inspect sites producing hash oil; Renee said that only an elected official is allowed in a grow facility; Max pointed out that the Committee was not focusing on processors (both medical and recreational) and more on medical caregiver growing and distribution. Freeman pointed out that the people inspecting the facilities should be qualified individuals (electricians) to ensure the home caregivers are going to operate without an issue; Renee said that will be difficult to enforce and these are still private homeowners that don't want to destroy their own products/ source of income. Renee pointed out that the State has their own site inspectors and the State's rollout of recreational marijuana has resulted in additional scrutiny and a tougher market to survive in. Freeman asked how the inspections are done today; Renee said it was done remotely where she had to show items they asked for.

4. Next Meeting

Freeman has written up a draft proposal for a Waldoboro Marijuana Ordinance. Members were asked to read the draft and be prepared with comments for the next meeting.

Meeting will be August 11th at Noon.

ADJOURN