

MINUTES
CANNABIS TASK FORCE MEETING
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC
THURSDAY, 2018-MAY-10, AT 3:00 P.M.

Members: Councillor J. A. Kipp, Chair
Mercedes Beaudoin-Lobb
Dr. Paul Hasselback
Robert Laurie (vacated at 5:09 p.m.)
Philippe Lucas
Dennis McMahon
Cpl Mahn Nguyen (vacated at 5:09 p.m.)
Rob Whitton

Absent: Sgt Rob Christenson

Staff: D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development
B. Corsan, Deputy Director of Community Development
(vacated at 4:37 p.m.)
H. Davidson, Manager of Permit Centre and Business Licencing
(vacated at 5:05 p.m.)
L. Rowett, Manager of Current Planning & Subdivision (entered at
3:04 p.m. and vacated at 5:02 p.m.)
D. Stewart, Planner (entered at 3:01 p.m. and vacated at 4:35 p.m.)
N. Tiwana, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE CANNABIS TASK FORCE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Cannabis Task Force Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Councillor Kipp advised that he would bring forward an item under Agenda Item 6 (b) regarding point of sale.
- (b) Councillor Kipp advised that Delegations has been added under Agenda Item 7 and that later on during the meeting time would be allotted for the delegates to provide their names.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes from the Cannabis Task Force Meeting held in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC on Thursday, 2018-April-19 at 3:00 p.m. be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS:

(a) Local Government Options for the Regulation of Legal Cannabis

Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development, prepared a report and highlighted the following:

- B.C. confirms 30g limit in a public place for an adult;
- Licencing scheme is almost identical as liquor;
- Local Governments to approve any retail stores;
- Province will determine who is eligible to have a licence;
- B.C. says no 'caps' on number of stores and no distance rules will apply;
- Local Governments have power to decide whether they want stores in their community.

Task Force discussion took place regarding the topics mentioned in the report and Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development, provided maps that showed areas of distinction and concern throughout Nanaimo when looking at licencing. The following topics were addressed:

- The map(s) showing locations of urban nodes, liquor stores(1km), corridors, commercial uses regardless of what they are, buffer of school properties, parks, libraries, etc.;
- Consumption of liquor and/ or cannabis and what is safer;
- Security requirements- zoning, bylaws;
- Look at potential utility usage based on individual applications;
- Creating Bylaws- look at enforcement;

It was moved and seconded that the Cannabis Task Force receive the report titled Local Government Options for the Regulation of Legal Cannabis dated 2018-MAY-10, for information. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion continued regarding:

- Siting for Retail
 - The options available for retail store siting and benefits (if any) between the options
 - *Option C* probably won't be put forward;
 - *Option A-* tough one to consider for retail in Nanaimo;
 - Site specific zoning- discussion about the options for 'A' and how we could make it work;
 - Considering Province rules and how often they change them;
 - Adding criteria for different interests is plausible.
 - *Option B-* a few members in agreeance that this option is good;

- maybe a hybrid of *Option A & B* will work
- Siting for Commercial;
 - liquor guidelines and what other municipalities are doing;
 - consider distance from retail store to school as it is relatable to liquor;

By unanimous consent the Cannabis Task Force requested that Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development, gather statistics from other urban settings regarding their standard practice for distance between liquor stores and schools.

- commercial use and what to expect with applications, see attachment 1 as reference
- grandfathering operations- no legal conforming businesses in the City; the Province will decide;
- Bill C-45 will have similar restrictions to an adult store (blacked out, no kids);

By unanimous consent the Cannabis Task Force requested that Bill C-45 be distributed via email and provide hard copies for the next meeting;

- Nuisance description considered for stores (i.e. filtration- no open containers in Government run stores);
- updating Bylaws- around commercial production
- *Option A preferable among group*
- Personal Cultivation
 - *Option B preferable*
- Public Consumption
 - concerns about public safety and health (i.e. second hand smoke, vaping, etc.);
 - Smoking Bylaw- public consumption bylaw for smoking tobacco but nothing for cannabis.
 - *Option A preferable among group*
- Look at production versus processing;
 - are we trying to encourage small businesses?
 - economy in 5-10 years from now
 - odours and consideration to Good Neighbour Agreement
 - limits to small business growers

Councillor Kipp called for names of interested speakers from the Public and decided to break to allow time for names to be submitted and brought forward during Agenda Item 7- Question Period.

The Cannabis Task Force meeting recessed at 4:32 p.m.

The Cannabis Task Force meeting reconvened at 4:37 p.m.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Next Meeting Dates

It was moved and seconded that the next meeting date, June 12, 2018, be adopted.
The motion carried unanimously.

b) Point of Sale

Consideration of Point of Sale was deferred to the next meeting.

7. QUESTION PERIOD:

(a) Delegations

1. Matt O'Donnell
 - Strongly suggest Option A
 - Big picture with all 30 dispensaries they've been operating as retail
 - Concern is over-regulating businesses
 - Tobacco is more dangerous but widely available
 - Suggest no cap- let fair market decide
2. Richard Scott
 - Provided an operator perspective
 - Prefers private consumption over public consumption
 - Need to have place to consume- onsite preferable(vape lounge)
3. Dean Gaudry
 - Society to debate how to treat cannabis
 - Market will decide who survives and who doesn't
 - Option B is best option; if province doesn't decide then someone should
 - Interested in providing recreational cannabis
4. Stefana Herman
 - Fair treatment for public
 - Complaints aren't necessarily related to business that is operating
 - Filter systems will be an option for odours
 - Security is more of an issue when operating a business

D. Stewart, Planner, vacated the Board Room at 4:35 p.m.

B. Corsan, Deputy Director of Community Development, vacated the Board Room at 4:37 p.m.

L. Rowett, Manager of Planning and Subdivision, vacated the Board Room at 5:02 p.m.

5. Karly Wilson
 - Investigate prohibitions in Canada
 - Cannabis is correct term
 - Standard practice is not always best practice
 - Looking at larger cities methods should not guide us

H. Davidson, Manager of Permit Centre and Business Licensing, vacated the Board Room at 5:05 p.m.

6. Rodrigo Bastias
 - Discussed Options A,B,C
 - Putting A & B together makes a hybrid option
 - Think about the Community & Education

R. Laurie vacated the Board Room at 5:09 p.m.
Cpl. M. Nguyen vacated the Board Room at 5:09 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:12 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.



CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



CORPORATE OFFICER