



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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## Cannabis Committee

October 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes  
Extra Space Storage Community Room  
658 nice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

1. CALL TO ORDER. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Present were Cindy Chambers (CC), Roseann Boffa (RB), Justin Brezhnev (JB), Patrick Gallogly (PG), Michael Jensen (MJ), Sailene Ossman (SO), and Shep Stern (SS).
2. AGENDA. The agenda was approved as presented (7-0-0); motion to approve by SS; seconded by RB.
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
  - Welcomed new committee member, Patrick Gallogly
4. PUBLIC COMMENT. There was no public comment.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. September 4, 2018, minutes were presented for discussion and a vote to approve without changes; motion to approve by SO; seconded by SS. Minutes were approved unanimously without changes.
6. OLD BUSINESS.
  - A. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Cannabis Town Hall outreach plan presented by VNC Outreach Committee.

ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION:

    - Cannabis Town Hall scheduled and confirmed for Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at Oakwood Rec Center beginning at 7 pm.
    - Cannabis Town Hall purpose and goals.
      - Educate and inform stakeholders on existing commercial cannabis laws and regulations; and,
      - Gather stakeholder input on issues such as limitations, onsite consumption, and City enforcement
    - Hollie Stenson, VNC Outreach Committee Chair, gave an update on activities that aligned with previous Cannabis Committee meeting notes and minutes.
  - B. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Finalize planning and identify remaining action items for Cannabis Town Hall.
    - Review and confirm speakers
      - Reviewed panelists and identified any follow-up
    - Draft topic items and questions
      - Draft question: If I'm a medical cannabis patient, why is my medicine being taxed?
      - Draft question: What are the new taxes? What are the tax differences between medical and adult use?
      - Draft question: What are the local changes? What are the state changes? What has changed?
      - Draft question: Why can't I just grow plants outside of my house?

- Draft question: Where can I consume cannabis?
- Draft question: What are they testing? How can I know what I bought has been tested?
- Create action items list
  - Identified Cannabis Committee members' roles for the town hall
  - Each Cannabis Committee member selected a role

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Recommendation that City Council amend LAMC section 104.01(a)(28) to remove exemption of EMMDs from exemption to findings of Undue Concentration.

28. "Undue Concentration" means the Applicants' Business Premises is located within a higher cannabis license/population ratio within the community plan based on the 2016 American Community Survey, updated by each decennial census, than the following: ratio of one license per 10,000 residents for Retailer (Type 10); ratio of one license per 7,500 residents for Microbusiness (Type 12); ratio of 1 square foot of cultivated area for every 350 square feet of land zoned M1, M2, M3, MR1, and MR2 with a maximum aggregate of 100,000 square feet of cultivated area and a maximum aggregate number of 15 Licenses at a ratio of one License for every 2,500 square feet of allowable cultivated area for Cultivation (Types 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 4 and 5A); and ratio of one license per 7,500 residents for Manufacture (Type 7). **An EMMD is not subject to a finding of Undue Concentration.** A Microbusiness involved in on-site retail counts towards the Undue Concentration License limits applied to Retailer (Type 10) Licenses, and a Microbusiness involved in Cultivation counts towards the Undue Concentration limits applied to Cultivation Licenses (Types 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 4 and 5A).

MOTION: Whereas the VNC Board believes it was the intent of the City Council to preserve the status quo of locations and activities of Existing Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (EMMD) and;  
 Whereas the Undue Concentration threshold for the Venice Community Plan Area is 4 retail licenses; and  
 Whereas there are currently 6 retail licenses located in the 90291 zip code; and  
 Whereas there are currently 2 retail licenses located in the 90292 zip code; and  
 Whereas the Venice Community Plan Area is a popular destination for cannabis tourism and has attracted numerous EMMDs, (Existing Medical Marijuana Dispensary) who have moved licenses from other Community Plan Areas;  
 Therefore, Be It Resolved that the VNC Board send a letter to the LA City Council and the Department of Cannabis Regulation recommending the following amendment to LAMC section 104.01(a)(28):

"unless the EMMD, (Existing Medical Marijuana Dispensary) moves its location after issuance of its 2018 BTRC, (Business Tax Registration Certificate) in which case it will be subject to the Undue Concentration findings of a new applicant for a retail license"

Cannabis Committee vote: 7-0-0

Motion sent to VNC Administrative Committee for agenda consideration.

8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None

9. MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:05 pm.