



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org) Phone: 310-421-8627

## Cannabis Committee

March 5, 2019 **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes  
Extra Space Storage Community Room  
658 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Meeting was called to order at 7:18 pm. Present were Cindy Chambers (CC), Roseann Boffa (RB), Sailene Ossman (SO), Shep Stern (SS), Michael Jensen (MJ) and Jed Pauker (JP).
2. **AGENDA.** The agenda was approved as presented (6-0-0).
3. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS** (7:05–7:10 pm)
  - Meeting minutes notetaking for this meeting - JP
  - April draft and final agenda - MJ
  - April physical posting - MJ
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Scheduled Announcements
  - None
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** on items not on the agenda
  - Venetian Jaime Morel, with local business, expressed social equity concern - fairness for small businesses, which must wait for a year to get needed answers to questions.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from February 5, 2019 meeting
  - Motion to approve by PG; seconded by SS; 2 abstentions (MJ, JP)
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - CC reviewed with committee, summarized licensee role.
- A. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Neighborhood Councils' role in cannabis business applications
  1. 104.05(a): Offer to appear
    - New info: DCR to provide written notice
    - MJ: City Council is voting Thursday
    - SS: What questions can we ask? Customers line up on AK; community reinvestment?
    - CC: Creating direct communication with applicants supports our stakeholders.
    - JP: Can apply a credits system for existing local operators

- CC suggested considering how we can provide for social equity to local businesses.
- SS mentioned community givebacks - our amendments ask more

2. MOTION: (MJ/SS) To recommend amending LAMC 104.05(a) as follows:

1. **AFTER** "... within which the Business Premises is situated." **ADD** "The Applicant shall offer to appear before the nearest Neighborhood Council and shall provide written evidence to the Department of Cannabis Regulation (DCR) of compliance with this section prior to the hearing before the DCR Commission."
  - The motion was approved as presented by unanimous consent.
2. **ADD** criterion between criteria (viii) and (ix): Basis for denial - lack of local support: "Upon notice of Neighborhood Council opposition of an application, DCR must respond with written findings addressing the bases for the Neighborhood Council's opposition."
  - The motion was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

B. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EMMD (Existing Medical Marijuana Dispensary) cannabis retail re-location requests amended ordinance.

- BG summarized, suggested that creating more work for DCR might tend to be rejected.
- Public Comment:
  - Jaime asked about avoiding the City's pro-corporate position by creating a local program to help small operators.
- MOTION to Table (JP/SS). Passed by unanimous consent.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Recently released proposed changes to DCR regulations and licensing for Phase 3 licensing

- MOTION to postpone until next meeting passed by unanimous consent.

B. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Consider community benefit and outline and request a community impact statement

- Public Comment:
  - Jaime asked about avoiding the City's pro-corporate position by creating a local program to help small operators.
- MOTION to postpone until next meeting passed by unanimous consent.

C. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: DCR proposal to increase the number of retailer licenses an individual can hold from three (3) to twelve (12) for those who own less than a 49% share of a Tier 1 storefront

- MOTION to postpone until next meeting passed by unanimous consent.

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.