

Thursday, June 11, 2020, 6:30 pm
Teleconference Meeting

MINUTES

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, members of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission as well as City staff will participate via phone/video conference and no physical teleconference locations are required.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

TO OBSERVE:

- To observe the meeting by video conference, please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82234033979>
- To listen to the meeting by phone, please call the numbers below at the noticed meeting time: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
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For each number, please be patient and when requested, dial the following Webinar ID: 822 3403 3979

After calling any of these phone numbers, if you are asked for a participant ID or code, press #. Instructions on how to join a meeting by phone are available at: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663>, which is a webpage entitled “Joining a Meeting By Phone.”

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: There are three ways to make public comment within the time allotted for public comment on an eligible Agenda item.

- Comment in advance. To send your comment to staff before the meeting starts, please send your comment, along with your full name and agenda item number you are commenting on, to Greg Minor at gminor@oaklandca.gov. All submitted public comment will be provided to the Cannabis Regulatory Commission prior to the meeting.
- By Video Conference. To comment by Zoom video conference, click the “Raise Your Hand” button to request to speak when Public Comment is being taken on an eligible agenda item at the beginning of the meeting. You will then be unmuted, during your turn, and allowed to participate in public comment. After the allotted time, you will then be re-muted. Instructions on how to “Raise Your Hand” are available at: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129>, which is a webpage entitled “Raise Hand In Webinar.”
- By Phone. To comment by phone, please call on one of the above listed phone numbers. You will be prompted to “Raise Your Hand” by pressing STAR-NINE (“*9”) to request to speak when Public Comment is being taken on a eligible agenda item at the beginning of the meeting.

Persons may speak on any item appearing on the agenda; however, a Speaker Card must be filled out and given to a representative of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission. Multiple agenda items cannot be listed on one speaker card. If a speaker signs up to speak on multiple items listed on the agenda, the Chairperson may rule that the speaker be given an appropriate allocation of time to address all issues at one time (cumulative) before the items are called. All speakers will be allotted 3 minutes or less – unless the Chairperson allots additional time.

♿ This meeting is wheelchair accessible. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meetings of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission, please contact the Office of the City Clerk (510) 238-3612. Notification two full business days prior to the meeting will enable the City of Oakland to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. In compliance with Oakland’s policy for people with chemical sensitivities, please refrain from wearing strongly scented products to events.

Questions or concerns regarding this agenda, or to review any agenda-related materials, please contact the Cannabis Regulatory Commission at (510) 238-6370.

Once it is your turn, you will be unmuted and allowed to make your comment. After the allotted time, you will be re-muted. Instructions of how to raise your hand by phone are available at: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663>, which is a webpage entitled “Joining a Meeting by Phone.”

If you have any questions about these protocols, please e-mail Greg Minor, at gminor@oaklandca.gov

Members:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Lanese Martin | District 1 | Frank Tucker | District 7 |
| Chang Yi | District 2 | Vacant | At Large |
| Vacant | District 3 | Stephanie Floyd-Johnson | Mayor |
| Debby Goldsberry | District 4 | Tiyanna Long | City Auditor |
| Claudia Mercado | District 5 | Greg Minor | City Administrator |
| Joshua Chase | District 6 | | |

Available on-line at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/boards-commissions/cannabis-regulatory-commission>

MEETING AGENDA

A. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Present: Martin, Yi, Goldsberry, Mercado, Chase, Floyd-Johnson, Long, Minor.

Absent: Tucker.

B. Open Forum / Public Comment

A member of the public spoke regarding the need for security at cannabis businesses, disconnect between taxes and lack of police response, and consumers trending towards the unregulated market.

C. Reports for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Recent Burglaries of Cannabis Businesses in Oakland and Recommendations for the City Administration and City Council on How to Support Impacted Businesses

Members of the public spoke regarding the following:

- The destruction of their business due to multiple break-ins at the end of May;*
- Need for emergency grant funds to support impacted equity businesses;*
- Need to review OPD’s response to break-ins at end of May;*
- Need to remove cannabis operator information from public websites;*
- Need to help operators obtain conceal and carry permits*
- Cannabis businesses that were impacted by burglaries prior to May, general and equity alike;*
- How elderly cannabis patients have lost access to dispensaries they rely on; and*
- Need to lower cannabis taxes.*

Chair Yi spoke stressed the disparity in cannabis business taxes with the lack of police response to cannabis burglaries in late May. Member Mercado added that cannabis businesses have been victimized since cannabis legalization. Member Goldsberry shared the experience of her dispensary being burglarized multiple times, having to lay off employees as a result, and not receiving a response from OPD in time. Member Chase shared the experience of protecting his dispensary. Member Floyd-Johnson stressed sharing information with City Council and holding OPD accountable. Vice-Chair Martin cautioned against being reactionary and ensuring the CRC’s recommendations are effective. Member Minor clarified that brick and mortar dispensaries are able to operate as delivery-operators under their existing permit, the upcoming Go-Biz grant that will be presented

to the City Council to support equity operators, as well as an upcoming Declaration of Emergency that would allow Oakland operators to seek relief from state regulations.

Member Long made a motion for the City Administrator's Office to compile a list of recommendations to the City Council re actions needed to sustain Oakland cannabis businesses, including:

- 1. Reduced/waived taxes for all businesses that were affected by the recent string of burglaries and property damage;*
- 2. Emergency grant funding for businesses directly affected;*
- 3. Remove operator information from County websites;*
- 4. Waive or reduce permit renewal fees;*
- 5. Assist operators obtain conceal and carry permits; and*
- 6. OPD should create a task force re cannabis with more officers.*

Member Mercado offered a friendly amendment to include all cannabis operators impacted by burglaries since January 2018.

Member Goldsberry made a friendly amendment to remove the recommendation re conceal and carry permits.

Member Long accepted Member Goldsberry's amendment and rejected Member Mercado's amendment. Member Mercado seconded Member Long's Motion but the motion failed as Members Yi, Goldsberry, Chase, and Minor abstained, Vice-Chair Martin voted no, and Members Mercado, Long, and Floyd-Johnson voted in favor.

Member Goldsberry moved for staff to tell the City Council to support an Emergency Declaration re the recent string of burglaries and to prioritize grants over loans via the Go-Biz grant and that they be fast-tracked for equity businesses effected by recent burglaries. Member Floyd-Johnson seconded this motion and it passed by consensus.

Member Mercado then moved for emergency relief for companies impacted by Covid-19 and earlier burglaries. Member Long made a friendly amendment to remove the inclusion of businesses impacted by earlier burglaries. Member Mercado rejected this amendment and there was no second for this motion.

Member Floyd-Johnson made her own motion for staff to prepare a report to the City Council informing them regarding the string of burglaries in late May/early June and include 1) a statement of impact; 2) the failure of OPD to protect cannabis businesses and inform them of trends; and 3) recommendations from the public at tonight's meeting.

Vice-Chair Martin then made a substitute motion for staff to include an impact report of the burglaries in late May/early June in the CRC's 2019 annual report. Member Floyd-Johnson seconded this motion and withdrew her own motion and Vice-Chair Martin's motion passed by consensus.

Member Goldsberry then made another motion for staff to prepare a report for the next CRC meeting re actions and opportunities re reduced fees and taxes, grants for impacted cannabis businesses, how businesses can get early notice re crime trends, and how the City can support businesses at the state level. There was no second for this motion. Member Goldsberry then suggested continuing this discussion at next month's CRC meeting.

D. Announcements

Chair Yi made an announcement re the Oakland Indeed Alliance for small grants for businesses.

E. Adjournment

