

Cannabis Sub-Committee Minutes  
Meeting on September 21, 2022

The meeting was opened by Chair Leslie Garwood at 10:01, September 21, 2022. Members attending the meeting were Jeff Bye, Jay Greenwell and Ed Brozman. Laura Rogers Castro also attended the meeting. She is in the process of being appointed to the committee to replace Carl Nett who resigned. The committee expects to have the Selectmen make the appointment before the next meeting in October so she may vote on committee business.

Minutes from the first meeting on 8/17/22 were reviewed and approved. A motion was made by Jay Greenwell and seconded by Ed Brozman to approve the minutes and have Chair Garwood sign the minutes. A roll call was taken and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The committee discussed the new Massachusetts law “An Act to Relative Equity in the Cannabis Industry “ that was signed into law on August 11, 2022 as well as the review by KP Law that was sent to the town. The law provides guidelines for Host Community Agreements to include adopting " procedures and policies that establish minimum standards for facilitating opportunity in the industry for those disproportionately harmed by marijuana prohibition”. Sandisfield currently has three HCA’s in place. Regarding revenue in future HCA’s, the town will be required to document all expenses incurred as a result of hosting the ME, for reimbursement by the ME. This task would likely fall to the Building Inspector, the Highway Department, the Finance Comm and Town Manager.

Action Items

1. Clarify the current status of Berkshire Mountain Cannabis’ progress in establishing a retail establishment on Route 8.
2. Establish a process of ongoing communication with the Select Board from topics discussed at committee meetings.
3. Establish a process with the Select Board as to how the committee engages with the Board and other town agencies when a new application for a cannabis operation is received (a grow facility or retail operation).
4. Ascertain with the Select Board, whether a local sales tax for cannabis growers can be levied, as it is for retail.

The next meeting will be held at 10 AM, October 26th via a Zoom call.

Chair Garwood ended the meeting at 11:10.

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Leslie Garwood, Chair, on Behalf of Cannabis Sub-Committee