

Cannabis Regulatory Commission

Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2020, 6:30 pm
Council Chambers, City Hall, One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

MINUTES

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

Members of the public spoke regarding microbusiness applications, the City of Oakland loan program for equity applicants, and onsite consumption lounges in other countries.

C. Review of the Pending List and Additions to Next Month's Agenda

- *Cannabis Regulatory Commission 2019 Annual Report (since February 2020)*
- *Agencies listed on City of Oakland cannabis permit inspection card (since February 2020)*
- *Shared drive regarding cannabis robberies and burglaries (since February 2020)*

Chair Yi stated that the annual report subcommittee had not yet met but he would reach out to Members Floyd-Johnson and Mercado shortly. Member Floyd-Johnson echoed other members interested in having representatives from those departments listed on the inspection card present at an upcoming meeting prepared to speak about their processes and how long they take.

D. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the CRC meeting of March 2020.

Member Floyd-Johnson moved to approve the Draft Minutes. Chair Yi seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

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.

E. Reports for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Training on Parliamentary Procedures

Deputy City Attorney Amadis Sotelo provided an overview of open meeting laws and parliamentary procedures and took questions from the commission. Member Martin asked regarding best practices regarding order of items and Deputy City Attorney Sotelo shared the practice of City Council meetings in which staff or the proponent of the item first presents, followed by public comment, and then debate by the City Council. Member Minor offered to provide more context for agenda items in the agenda packet to assist discussions at future meetings. Chair Yi moved to continue this item for a future meeting and Member Martin seconded the motion.

2. Introduction to Workforce Development Board

Interim Director Lazandra Dial introduced herself and provided an overview of the Workforce Development Board and its work. Member Martin and members of the public asked for clarity on the status of \$200,000 in funding from the 2017 Resolution No. 86633 that allocated a portion of cannabis tax revenue towards the funding job training and other job-preparation and placement services. Member Martin moved for staff to provide an accounting for this funding. Member Floyd-Johnson seconded this motion and it passed by consensus.

3. Impact of Covid-19 on the Cannabis Industry

Public speakers spoke re Covid-19's impact on seshes, events, re-payment of loans, as well as business sales.

Member Martin made a motion for staff to direct the equity loan program consultant to take into consideration Covid-19 relief measures. Member Long seconded the motion and it passed by consensus. Member Goldsberry mentioned that brick and mortar sales have declined and any increased in sales are in delivery. Member Goldsberry further expressed concerns for small businesses around rent. Chair Yi then moved that the City direct the loan program consultant to suspend one or more requirements during Shelter In Place, including the requirement of three consecutive on-time loan repayments to qualify for a new loan. Member Martin seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

Member Chase moved to add the equity loan program and enforcement against seshes on next month's agenda. Chair Yi seconded the motion and it passed with Member Martin abstaining. Member Goldsberry moved to put Covid-Relief and Recovery for Businesses on next month's agenda. Chair Yi seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

4. Use of Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) \$6.5 million Grant Award to City of Oakland

Member Minor provided background re the Go-Biz grant, the City's initial recommendations on how to use grant funds, eligibility considerations, and the City's desire of gathering public input on this topic.

Public comment included discussion re the following: the definition of an equity applicant; how a significant portion of the grant should go to workforce development; how the State of California may still allocate grant funding for local jurisdiction's equity programs in upcoming budgets; how the City should use the Go-Biz grant to provide equity applicant's with technical assistance and purchasing a property that could serve as an equity hub; and outreach.

Member Mercado suggested prioritizing equity applicants who submitted an application more than a year ago. Member Martin recommended funding shared kitchens, workforce development programs, extending eligibility

for equity assistance program services for seven years, and re-examining the definition of an equity applicant as part of the updated assessment of the equity program. Member Goldsberry encouraged extending equity applicants' eligibility for equity assistance program services for an additional two years and funding a marketing campaign for Oakland companies. Member Long echoed support for shared licenses as well as technical assistance programs.

Member Mercado made a motion for Go-Biz funds to include \$150,000-\$300,000 grants to equity operators from prior to 2019. There was no second for this motion.

Member Goldsberry moved to accept staff's initial recommendation to prioritize funding workforce development and extending eligibility for equity assistance program services an additional two years. Member Martin made a friendly amendment to extend eligibility for an initial seven year period. Member Goldsberry accepted this amendment and it passed by consensus. Member Martin then moved to refer the issue of the definition of an equity applicant to the subcommittee working on an updated assessment of the equity program. Member Floyd-Johnson seconded the amendment and it passed by consensus with Member Mercado abstaining. Member Goldsberry then made an additional motion to support staff's initial recommendation to prioritize revolving loans; Member Mercado seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

5. Updated Equity Program Assessment

Due to the lateness of the hour, this item was continued to the next meeting.

6. Electing New Vice-Chair

Member Long recommended nominating Member Floyd-Johnson. Members of the public recommended nominating Member Martin. Member Goldsberry then moved to nominate Member Martin as Vice-Chair. Chair Yi seconded this motion and it passed by consensus.

F. Announcements

1. Update re Request for Proposals (RFP) responses for Shared Manufacturing Facility and Event Organizer for Equity Applicants
2. Public Drawing for 2019-2020 Equity Dispensary Permit Applicants Will Be Held In TBD and Will Be Posted on City Website.
3. Two Current Vacancies on the Cannabis Regulatory Commission.
4. Update on Cannabis Permitting Process

G. Adjournment