

CNMI Cannabis Commission

Regular Session Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2020

I. A

The CNMI Cannabis Commission was called to order by Chairwoman Nadine Deleon Guerrero at 11:10 a.m. on March 6, 2020, in the Commonwealth Casino Commission Conference Room, Saipan.

II. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Nadine Deleon Guerrero, Commissioner representing Saipan
Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Commissioner representing Saipan
Valentino Taisakan Jr., Commissioner representing Northern Islands
Journie Hofschneider, Commissioner representing Tinian
Thomas Songsong, Commissioner representing Rota

Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Special Advisor (SA) on Cannabis Industry for the Office of the Governor

Monique B. Sablan, Managing Director

Alexis Hofschneider, Senate Legislative Assistant

III. Consideration and Adoption of Agenda

- Secretary made a motion to approve the agenda as is; Treasurer seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

IV. Consideration and Adoption of Minutes of Prior Meeting

- Secretary made a motion to table January 30th, February 6th, and February 27th and March 5th minutes to the following meeting, March 10th. Treasurer seconded it. No discussion. All Members voted in favor of the motion.

V. Public Comment

- SA verified that there were no members of the public present waiting downstairs to comment
- Alexis Hofschneider commented had questions from Chairman Vinnie Sablan (questions from constituencies) 1. How many dispensaries are anticipated being available in each senatorial district? 2. How many licenses will be given out for each license type? 3. Where can people consume? 4. What requirements will be set out for homegrown licenses? 5. Is it legal to consume right now? SA and Chairwoman requested Alexis send the questions to them via email.
- SA mentioned that Albert King from Law Revision Commission received an email from the public regarding cannabis questions. SA will respond to their questions with assistance from MD.
- Chairwoman requested that any questions any members receive to forward to MD to form a library of question types.

VI. Old Business

1. Consideration of adoption of emergency commercial regulations

- Chairwoman met with Ruth (CCC) and she advised may be best to put everything in one package so that when it comes to public comment period, it will be a streamlined process for receiving the comments. To be submitted: Emergency regs for commercial and then the regular Commercial and Homegrown.
- Chairwoman brought up that there are investors eager to for the Commission to implement the license processes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of publication for public comment

- Meeting is scheduled for March 10th to ensure the public is notified. Voting will commence.

2. Consideration of limiting commercial licenses

- Members agreed not to limit licenses at this time. We will see how the industry develops and revisit the idea later.

3. Consideration of new fee schedule

- Was not discussed

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Legal Counsel Report – the LSR was not submitted so we did not have legal counsel in attendance.

Chairwoman wants to go to the AG to see if Mike can assist us for the next few months.

Vice Chairman made a motion to amend the agenda to add the SA and MD report; Secretary seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

SPECIAL ADVISOR and MANAGING DIRECTOR'S (combined) REPORT

- Summarized their visits to proposed office spaces
- MD discussed inability to hire; she is looking to reach out to NMC to see if any students would be interested in work experience.
- MD advised that the regulation package and a memo is ready to go; they are being translated and ready in time for publication.

Chairwoman reminded members that we need to provide her the \$84 for the website host.

ADJOURNMENT Chairwoman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 pm; Secretary seconded, no discussion; all members agreed with the motion.