



COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CNMI Cannabis Commission

Organizational Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2019

Opening

The organizational meeting of the CNMI Cannabis Commission was called to order by Chairman pro tempore Matthew Deleon Guerrero at 10:38 a.m. on September 12, 2019 in the Governor's Conference Room of the Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building.

Present

Nadine Deleon Guerrero, Commissioner representing Saipan
Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Commissioner representing Saipan
Valentino Taisacan Jr., Commissioner representing the Northern Islands
Journie Hofschneider, Commissioner representing Tinian
Thomas Songsong, Commissioner representing Rota
Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Special Advisor on Cannabis Industry for the Office of the Governor
Gilbert Birnbrich, Legal Counsel for the Office of the Governor
Kevin Bautista, Press Secretary for the Office of the Governor (Reporter)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

All Cannabis Commissioners were present. A quorum was established.

Public Comment

No public comments were made to the Commission.

New Business

Selection of the officers of the Commission

- Commissioner N. Deleon Guerrero elected as Chairwoman; leads selection of the officers
- Commissioner M. Deleon Guerrero elected as Vice Chairman
- Commissioner Taisacan elected as Treasurer
- Commissioner Hofschneider elected as Secretary

CNMI Cannabis Commission duly organized

- Commissioner Nadine Deleon Guerrero, Chairwoman
- Commissioner Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Vice Chairman
- Commissioner Valentino Taisacan Jr., Treasurer
- Commissioner Journie Hofschneider, Secretary

- Commissioner Thomas Songsong, Member

Motion made by Chairwoman N. Deleon Guerrero to amend agenda to include the following items:

- To include posting of the Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) for the Managing Director position
- To request legal counsel from the Office of the Attorney General
- Commission voted to amend agenda to include the aforementioned items for discussion.

Posting of JVA for Managing Director

Press release/announcement to be drafted by Chairwoman N. Deleon Guerrero

Letter requesting legal representation from the Office of the Attorney General

Draft forthcoming

Lottery to determine the terms of Commissioners

Commissioner proceeded to draw lots to determine terms in office

The results is as follows:

- Chairwoman N. Deleon Guerrero to serve a 4-year term
- Vice Chairman M. Deleon Guerrero to serve a 2-year term
- Treasurer Taisacan to serve a 4-year term
- Secretary Hofschneider to serve a 4-year term
- Commissioner Songsong to serve a 2-year term

Remarks by Chairwoman N. Deleon Guerrero

Chairwoman thanked the members, expressing confidence in the Commission's composition of highly skilled and knowledgeable individuals representing a diverse range of expertise. She believed the Commission will be successful and that they will work to ensure the regulations will be out before the 180 days. She discussed plans for the Commission to hold a public event by April 20, 2020.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. by Chairwoman N. Deleon Guerrero. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building.