



State of Rhode Island
CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION
560 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, Rhode Island 02806

Cannabis Control Commission

Open Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, August 18, 2023

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Place: The Public Utilities Commission - 89 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick, RI 02888

Members Present: Chair Kimberly R. Ahern, Esq.
Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard, Esq.
Commissioner Olayiwola Oduyingbo, Esq.

Members Absent: None

Chairperson Ahern called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.

The first order of business was:

Welcome and Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Chairperson Ahern welcomed everyone present to the second Cannabis Control Commission Listening Session.

She stated the purpose of the meeting was to take public comments. She stated the meeting was being live streamed through Zoom and welcomed in-person and Zoom participants' comments. She stated that all participants will be limited to 5 minutes each and reviewed sign in and speaking procedures.

The next order of business was:

Committee introductions by Chairperson Ahern

Chairperson Ahern, Commissioner Robert B. Jacquard, Esq. and Commissioner Olayiwola Oduyingbo, Esq. introduced themselves.

The next order of business was:

Motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting held on August 4, 2023.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Jacquard and duly seconded by Commissioner Oduyingbo, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Minutes from August 4, 2023.

The next order of business was:

Motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting held on August 9, 2023.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Jacquard and duly seconded by Commissioner Oduyingbo, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Minutes from August 9, 2023.

The next order of business was:

Public Comments: 12 people provided comments on the following topics:

- Licensing and lottery process – concerns about licenses going to out-of-state businesses.
- Need for more dispensaries
- Accurate labeling and warnings
- Equitable Social Justice and financial support
- Provisional licensing
- Provide technical assistance to help applicants navigate procedures
- Put tax revenue into social equity grants.
- Mass former Cannabis Control Commissioner offering barriers encountered, advice and suggestions
- Delegating resources to youth prevention
- Regulation on advertising
- Worker-owned co-ops growth
- Financing challenges for businesses
- Education programs
- Technical assistance
- Advocation for more retail points

Chairperson Ahern advised that if you are interested in getting notifications of future meetings, please email the Office of Cannabis Regulation at dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov to be added to their interested parties list.

The next order of business was:

Adjournment

Upon motion made by Commissioner Jacquard and duly seconded by Commissioner Oduyingbo, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 2:13 pm.

If you would like access the video recording of this meeting, please e-mail CCCinquiry@ccc.ri.gov.