

READING PLANNING COMMISSION

CITY OF READING

January 8, 2018

Present: Chad Penney, Warren Bart eis, Christine Gollnick, Chuck Hartsho rn, Betty Biount, Emma Everett . Also present: Ben Wheeler, Kym Blythe , and 17 guests. Chad called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Reading City Hali. Chris made a motion, seconded by Betty, to approve the November 2017 minutes with the addition "...it will be recommended to City Council "if passed by the Commission." Motion carried 6-0. The agenda was accepted as presente d. Chad closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing to consider the Michigan Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act (PA 281 of 2016) zoning ordinance amendment at 6:32.

Chad made opening comments about the purpose of the hearing and some background concerning the ordinance. Randy Sanders opened public comments opposing the amendment. He felt it would hinder economic development and would lead to further recreational use in the area . Dan Gollnick asked who would police it . Chuck North's, superintendent of Reading Community Schools, main concern was whether any distances from school properties was specified. Jeff Nemeth , Act Labs of Lansing representative , acknowledged that the present document was weak in not specifying any distance from school property for any of the facilities . This would actually help law enforcement. He has worked with a number of state applicatio ns, and said Michigan 's is by far the most detailed and lengthy. There is a minimum patient account aiiowed . He usually does not encourage dispensaries located in a downtown which may discourage use by some patie nts. However, wrth the local police department downtownthere is also the plus of easier policing. Chuck and Chad shared that a six-foot fence would be required around ail facilities except those located downtown . A person in the back addressed opioids. From his perspective, it is important to move from Vicodin to medical marijuana to avoid opioid addiction . He felt doctors need to be able to move patients from opioids to medical marij uana, with four days at most with Vicodin . Betty responded with information from the Free Press and personal similar concerns. Debbie Sanders voiced concern still whether it would help encourage other local businesses and support the schools. Chuck and Emma responded to some of the public comments made and voiced support of the amendment. Chris finally shared her thoughts that numerous safeguards are established. She was glad we have a public hearing which allows different thoughts and opinions to be voiced. It helps address concerns and promotes changes or adj ust ments. She thanked all those who came and who voiced thoughts.

Chad closed the Public Hearing and reopened the reguiar meeting at 8:00. Chuck made a motion, seconded by Betty , to recommend the adoption by City Council of a Michigan Medical rvlarijuana Facilities Act (PA 281 of 2016) ordinance amendment as presented with the changes in Section 152 .10 6(E), 4 (a) to say "Must have a 300-minimum setback from any school property" and 6-foot fence requirements added to Section 152.106E, (4) parts (b) and (c). Motion carried 6-0.

Emma made a motion, seconded by Chuck, to keep the present slate of commission off icers. Motion carr ied 6-0.

Chuck made a motion, seconded by Ch ris, to adopt the 2018 meeting schedule. Note-we are scheduling monthly meetings again, not bi-monthly. Motion carried 6-0.

Chuck made a motion, seconded by Emma, to approve the 2017 Annual Report as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Chuck made a motion, seconded by Chris, to approve the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure document with changes: in Section 1.2A listing membership in the commission as 7 members, not 9 members, in Section 3.2 meetings shall normally be scheduled on the "second" Monday of the month, not fourth, and in Section 3.4 a quorum shall consist of "a majority of membership," not five members. Motion carried 6-0.

No specific Annual Work Program was developed or reviewed at this time. More business can be conducted with the addition of the added scheduled meetings this year.

Betty made a motion, seconded by Chuck, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Motion carried 6-0.