

**Brandon Board of Local Cannabis Control Commissioners Meeting
August 12, 2024**

NOTE: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent board meeting.

Board Members in Attendance: Doug Bailey, Heather Nelson, Brian Coolidge, Ralph Ethier, Tim Guiles

Others In Attendance: Seth Hopkins, Bill Moore, Steven Jupiter, Susan Benedict, Vicki Disorda, Pat Snow, Wayne Rausenberger, Chuck Knox, Neil Silins, Barry Varian, Janet Coolidge, Barbara Scribner, Scott Scribner, Brent Buehler, Mr. Waldie, Dortha Langevin, Steve Bisette, Sam Glaser, Bruce Ness, Judy Bunde, Karen Rhodes, Billy Bullock, Molly Kennedy, Tricia Welch, Sandy Mayo

Others by Zoom: Jack Schneider, Grace Coolidge, Cecil Reniche-Smith

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM by Doug Bailey – Board Chair.

a. Agenda Adoption

Motion by Tim Guiles/Brian Coolidge to approve the agenda, as amended. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Addition of Application S-000009267 – Manufacturer’s Tier 2 Renewal – Sun Valley Herbcraft LLC

2. Approval of Minutes

a) Local Cannabis Control Commissioners Meeting – July 22, 2024

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Ralph Ethier to approve the minutes of the Local Cannabis Control Commissioners meeting of July 22, 2024. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Motion by Heather Nelson/Ralph Ethier to enter into executive session at 7:04PM per 1VSA313(a)(6): Records exempt from the access to public records provisions of 1VSA313. **The motion passed unanimously.**

3. Executive Session

The Board came out of executive session at 7:05PM. There were no actions required.

4. Approval of Application

a. Application #S-000006502 – Retailers: Lucky 7 Dispensary

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Tim Guiles to approve Application S-000006502 for Lucky 7 Dispensary. **The motion passed unanimously.**

b. Application S-000009267 – Manufacturer’s Tier 2 Renewal – Sun Valley Herbcraft LLC

Motion by Ralph Ethier/Brian Coolidge to approve Application S-000009267 for Sun Valley Herbcraft LLC. **The motion passed unanimously.**

5. Public Comment and Participation

Neil Silins asked how many cannabis vendors is a good number for the size of Brandon. Tim Guiles advised it is not up to the Town to limit the number. Seth Hopkins reported there are currently two cannabis vendors in Town with the Select

Board approving a third one tonight. The Select Board has approved several licenses for cultivators. Mr. Silins questioned what happens if the Select Board does not approve a license. Mr. Guiles stated the Select Board cannot disqualify a license but the Board plays as an early warning if there is an issue. Similar to the liquor licenses, the Select Board does not have any authority, but can provide an early warning to the State. Mr. Hopkins stated the Select Board cannot put limits on the licenses as they begin at the State level and then to the Town. The only items the local commission has control over is signage violations or something that does not abide by the zoning, similar to other businesses. Mr. Guiles stated the laws are designed to be a fair playing field for local businesses and the State has taken away any discrimination with the cannabis business. He stated if there are too many shops and they are not making money, they will start to close. Tricia Welch asked if the Town could put to a vote indicating it does not want to allow cannabis. Mr. Hopkins reported the Town voted to allow retail cannabis and there would have to be another vote if they did not want it. The Select Board could choose to place this on the ballot or there could be a petition from the voters. Janet Coolidge asked if the growers could still grow or is this just for retailers. Mr. Hopkins advised the only part that is within the purview of the Town is the retail as the Town does not have authority to indicate there cannot be growing operations. Susan Benedict asked what the age requirement is and it was noted it is 21 years old, the same as alcohol. Mr. Guiles reported he toured one of the facilities and was impressed with the amount of work they have to do to verify eligibility and they were proud to put forward what they have to do to stay legal. He urged the public to stop in and talk with one of the establishments. Charles Knox asked who controls the pricing of the merchandise. It was noted that the merchants control their own pricing. Brent Buehler asked if the Town were to vote to not have cannabis would the existing operations be grandfathered in and Mr. Hopkins advised they would not. It was noted that the Town receives local option tax funds from the sales.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Brian Coolidge/Tim Guiles to adjourn the Board of Local Cannabis Control Commissioners meeting at 7:17PM. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant
Recording Secretary