



Lowell City Council

Zoning SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: April 3, 2018
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Milinazzo, C. Nuon and C. Kennedy who arrived at 5:46 PM. Also present were Eric Slagle and Christine McCall (Inspectional Services), Elliott Veloso (Asst. City Solicitor), C. Mercier, and C. Cirillo.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Milinazzo called the meeting to order at 5:34PM in the Council Chamber. C. Milinazzo asked Mr. Slagle to provide an overview of last Tuesday's Meeting for the new faces in the audience and then they would continue with public discussion. C. Milinazzo noted the goal is to try and get this reported out of the sub/committee this evening to the full Council so the Council can have the Law Department draw up in proper form. C. Milinazzo explained that the City is on a tight time frame and that the Ordinance needs to be in place by July 1st.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Mr. Slagle provided a brief overview of issues that the department tried to address. Mr. Slagle went over a few key pieces of the draft, 1st which was the definitions of marijuana uses, the table of uses which described the district they were allowed. Mr. Slagle also went over some other important things such as buffer zones. Mr. Slagle also mentioned some non -zoning issues brought up in the regulations such as local tax options and restriction on number of marijuana facilities that are allowed in municipalities based on percentage of alcohol licenses. C. Mercier questioned the restrictions with respect to dormitories and Mr. Slagle explained that they are not for residential location. C. Kennedy questioned residential areas like Rogers Street and along Rogers St. C. Kennedy explained that Regional Retail Districts abut single family neighborhoods and that maybe we should include having the Regional Retail District get Planning Board approval as well. Mr. Slagle said that this is with a host agreement signed by the City Manager and if the City Manager does not approve of the site then they would not even



get to the Planning Board. C. Milinazzo questioned the conditions with respect to recreational marijuana retail facilities not being within 500 ft. of school and if this would cover daycare facilities. Mr. Slagle explained that they did think about that and that the reason they did elementary school age children is because they are allowed to leave school alone whereas daycare children would not. C. Kennedy moved, seconded by C. Nuon "To amend regulations to allow pre-existing medical marijuana facilities to co-locate but no medical facility will exist in future". Roll call vote 3 yeas. So Voted. C. Milinazzo allowed speakers to address the sub/Committee (Chuck Saber, Joseph Boyle, Mr. Weza, Bob Mayer, and CEO Patriot Care). C. Cirillo asked Mr. Slagle if they had considered the downtown as a location for a recreational dispensary as it would bring more revenue, more people. Mr. Slagle said they did think about that and where this is so new if it was allowed it would not be able to be taken out and that the Council can always come in and add later. C. Kennedy then moved, seconded by C. Nuon "To amend the regulations on the chart that the N under medical treatment center for the Regional Retail District be changed to PB". Roll call vote 3 yeas. So Voted. C. Kennedy moved seconded by C. Nuon "To recommend the Zoning Sub/Committee recommend to the full Council that it be sent to the Law Department to draw up the proper vote for final vote". Roll call vote 3 yeas. So Voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn and to accept the report as a report of progress by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Milinazzo. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20PM

Angela Gitschier, Acting City Clerk