



# Town of Brookline

## CANNABIS MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Miriam Aschkenasy  
Chair

### **Cannabis Mitigation Advisory Committee MINUTES – Tuesday, June 3, 2021 12 – 1 pm**

#### Attendees

Committee Members: Matt Hyatt, Bruce Levin, Ana Otero, Alison Plante, Miriam Aschkenasy

Staff: Monique Baldwin, Lt. Det Paul Cullinane, Todd Kirrane, Lesley Craft

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The CMAC virtual public meeting was held virtually via Zoom and was recorded.

The committee welcomed new Chair Miriam Aschkenasy. The Committee Members and Staff introduced themselves.

Monique Baldwin, Cannabis Licensing & Mitigation Coordinator provided an update regarding marijuana licensing. Comm Ave Canna appeared before the Select Board and provided an overview of their operating plans. However, they will need to appear before the Select Board so that the Select Board can vote regarding the proposed license conditions. Ms. Baldwin noted that Staff is making every effort for the conditions to be consistent with all retailers to the extent possible.

Ms. Baldwin stated that Warrant Articles 19 & 20 regarding Marijuana Couriers and Delivery Operators were scheduled to be heard that night, therefore she would provide an overview of how the Town plans to accommodate the new establishments moving forward. She noted that CMAC voted favorable action regarding the Warrant Articles.

Finally, Ms. Baldwin stated that only some retailers would need to appear before the Select Board to have their Phase 4 Plan approved. She noted an administrative oversight in NETA's license conditions meant

that NETA had been receiving walk-ins as early as May 29<sup>th</sup>. Though, all other Brookline retailers' license conditions included a Phase 4 Plan be approved by the Select Board. Therefore, Sanctuary would appear before the Select Board to permit walk-ins (by providing their Phase 4 Plan) and additionally to receive Sanctuary's request to partner with a Marijuana Courier to deliver adult-use cannabis.

Committee Member Ana Otero inquired about Mission Inc. as there were concerns relating to lack of diversity.

The Chair stated the Select Board requested that Mission provide a better equity plan and they provided one, to which the Select Board has asked that Comm Ave Canna match. She stated there are ongoing discussions regarding the increase of retail licenses with a sharp lens on equity.

Committee Member Alison Plante asked for clarity regarding how NETA was able to have walk-ins and Sanctuary could not, and asked what was being done regarding the public urination returning. Ms. Baldwin explained the administrative oversight.

Ms. Otero added that she had already spoken with both Ms. Baldwin and Lt. Cullinane regarding the two incidents.

Ms. Plante noted that during COVID there were no instances of public urination and wondered if walk-ins were now the reason that these incidents were now occurring.

Ms. Baldwin explained that Staff would be brainstorming ways to reduce public urination by beautification of the space, or installing a sign in addition to other methods.

Ms. Otero stated that it's an ugly spot. She suggested putting a camera in the area.

Committee Member Bruce Levin stated that he would greatly prefer reserve ahead as opposed to allowing walk-ins for all Brookline marijuana retailers. He stated that the lines would encourage public urination.

There was discussion on whether or not NETA is still permitting queueing outside of the building footprint. Todd Kirrane, the Director of Transportation, stated NETA has two queueing locations.

Ms. Plante shared her concerns that other nuisances would begin as Sanctuary is not allowing walk-ins. NETA would be the only location in Brookline to walk in and receive the product.

Ms. Baldwin stated that the only way to remedy the situation is to allow Sanctuary to appear before the Select Board as soon as possible.

Lt. Cullinane stated that Staff is working to ensure NETA provides restrooms inside the establishment. He also stated that there are no “no trespassing signs” in the daycare lot. Therefore, he would work with the daycare to provide them. Lt. Cullinane stated that nobody should be permitted in the lot when the daycare is closed, let alone urinate in there. He also mentioned that a 71-year old man was caught urinating in public on White Place. He stated the man was stopped and was embarrassed.

Mr. Kirrane asked if NETA has the two porta-potties in the lot.

Lt. Cullinane stated NETA used to however, due to COVID they were removed. He mentioned that public urination was an issue even when the porta-potties were prevalent. Mr. Kirrane suggested if people are caught, they would not have the excuse that no restrooms were provided. Lt. Cullinane agreed to request the porta-potties.

Mr. Levin asked if the officers on bikes were patrolling the area. Lt. Cullinane stated they would start as now there's a lot of street activity.

Mr. Levin asked if Mr. Kirrane could look into the congestion on Webster Street.

Mr. Kirrane stated Staff is working with Sanctuary's traffic consultant and are aware Webster St is becoming more popular. Additionally, there is construction at the lower end of Webster Street.

Finally, Mr. Levin asked if there would be picnic benches in the parking lot.

Mr. Kirrane stated there would not be as COVID restrictions have lifted however, public parkettes have been built in Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village. He stated there is an outdoor license agreement application before the Board for Prairie Fire to create a space in a portion of the rear lot similar to what Hamilton's has done in the Center Street West lot.

Ms. Baldwin closed by noting that Committee Member Michael Zoorob stepped down as he had other commitments. There was an inquiry regarding the appointments for the CMAC Members. Monique stated she would provide an update at the following meeting.

**Minutes:**

The meeting minutes from May 6, 2021, were unanimously approved by the committee.

Meeting adjourned.

*CMAC meetings are usually on the first Thursday of every month at noon.*

Website: <https://www.brooklinema.gov/1725/Cannabis-Mitigation-Advisory-Committee>