



Gary Christenson, Mayor

**CANNABIS LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**

**VIA ZOOM**

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 5 PM**

<b>Committee Members in Attendance</b>		
√	Jenelle DeVits, Chair	Council Appt.
√	Ron Hogan	Finance
√	Nelson Miller	Bldg. Commissioner
√	Kevin Molis	Chief of Police
√	Diana Jeong	Mayor's Appt.
√	Kathleen Manning Hall	Clerk <i>Non-voting member</i>

**MINUTES**

- 1. Roll Call of Committee Members:** Meeting began at 5 PM. A quorum of the members was present to conduct business.
- 2. Review and approval of Minutes of Tuesday, January 5, 2021.** *Motion by Ron Hogan to approve the January 25 minutes; seconded by Diana Jeong. All in favor, Motion passes unanimously.*
- 3. Review of Applications Received.** Five applications have been submitted:
  - Lazy River Products, LLC, 270-280 Medford Street (Retail)
  - Benevolent Botanicals LLC, 926 Eastern Avenue (Retail, Cultivation and Manufacturing)
  - Faded LLC d/b/a Your Green Package, 88 Broadway (Retail)
  - DMS Trinity, LLC, 36 Charles Street (Retail)
  - Center Harvest Corp., 65 Commercial Street (Retail)

Discussion ensued about whether the CLEC should review applications as received or extend the deadline to encourage more. Consensus was to move forward with the applications received.

Today Center Harvest submitted supplemental information which was after the February 9 deadline. There was an early February communication from them inquiring about whether they were required to reapply and pay the application fee again. They

were told that they had the opportunity to ask the CLEC to reconsider their application or could provide a new one. They did not respond to that communication and submitted the additional information after the deadline. The Committee is comfortable including them as part of the new round of applicants, especially as they are a previous applicant.

Discussion ensued about whether to conduct interviews in person or remotely. It was decided to use the City Council Chamber for interviews as CLEC members will be seated on the Dias, and applicants will be able spread out in the audience section. Only CLEC members and applicants will be present. The public will view the interviews via webinar. Kathleen will work to schedule applicants - two per evening early to mid-March after determining the CLEC's availability.

#### **4. FOIA Requests.**

The City has received FOIA requests for the applications of the two businesses that received special permits. Discussion ensued whether to require applicants to submit a PDF version for the city website when submitting applications in addition to paper copies. Members have questions about the process for redacting. Jenelle has asked for the assistance of the Solicitor's office to see how to best redact personal information. In the Permitting Department, all are filed electronically, and Nelson said his office would be able to attach the application to the property and create a link on the website.

Kathleen will reach out to the five new applicants and ask for a PDF of their application as well as the two that have received special permits. The state makes applications available for public view so Malden should be able to as well. It was suggested that applicants submit applications electronically only, however there is merit to having a paper copy. Kathleen will reach out to the City Solicitor for her advice on redacting.

#### **5. Status of Proposed Ordinance Changes.** Ron Hogan sent a letter to Councillor Spadafora clarifying the ordinance changes. It was noted that one of the new applicants proposed a delivery service and our ordinance doesn't allow for delivery, we will look to the state for guidance. Delivery is something that was anticipated to be part of a retailer business and not a separate business. The Committee will need to conduct more research before going that route.

#### **6. New Business.** No new business

#### **7. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be for conducting of interviews; Kathleen will reach out to applicants to schedule.

Motion to adjourn at 5:30 PM by Ron Hogan to adjourn and seconded by Nelson Miller. All in favor, meeting adjourned.