

Jefferson County Marijuana Task Force

June 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Ramey Johnson called the meeting to order.

Ramey welcomed the task force members and guests and thanked them for volunteering. Ramey also suggested that she would like the task force report to follow that of Golden's.

Jeanie noted a change that needed to be made to the draft May 12, 2014 meeting minutes – the County's share of the 10% state sales tax would be 15%, not 1.5%. It was moved and seconded to adopt the revised minutes. Minutes were approved.

Ramey asked for a volunteer for the co-chair position. Tom Gorman and Brian Richardson volunteered. Tom was elected by written ballot.

Tours of dispensaries and grow houses were discussed next. Erin Logan agreed to provide some times and dates for tours. Task force members can then choose the tour that is convenient for them

The group continued the discussion on the impacts of retail sales. There was a general discussion about the efficacy of data. Issues related to funding of studies, flawed methodology, causal relationship, and anecdotes vs. data. Jeanie will share all studies and data that have been provided thus far.

Max Raileanu, a student intern at Jefferson County, shared some research he had done on the effects of marijuana on students. He cited two studies, and then shared his discussions with four school resource officers. He then shared some studies regarding use of marijuana on children with seizures.

Jim McCormick recommended that at some point, the group would need to split into two subgroups to prepare majority and minority recommendations to the Commissioners.

Jeanie asked for volunteers to look into determining an expected range of revenue that might come into the County as a result of retail sales. Jim, Erin, and Ramey volunteered to help with that effort. Jordan also suggested that Andrew Livingston of his office could be of help.

Jeanie mentioned that she would like to see if there is any information (probably from medical sales) on the impacts of a dispensary on surrounding businesses. Other economic impacts are job creation, and taking business from the black market. The Denver Chamber of Commerce was suggested as another source of information on these types of issues.

Brian said that he is talking to his business group about impacts and suggested that Lin Browning might be able to do the same.

Jordan gave a brief summary about the state regulations. He noted that the state's regulations are modeled after the gaming /casino industry and are intended to keep organized crime and cartels out. He also said that there are background check requirements and residency requirements. He went on to discuss requirements for facilities, including the fact that they must be licensed by the state and that

there are numerous security and safety conditions. He also discussed the testing for potency and contaminants. Mike Elliott suggested that by banning retail sales, the county would be favoring basement grows over highly regulated retail sales.

Four members of the public then shared their thoughts on the subject.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 23, 2014 in the Lookout Mountain Room from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Attendees: Patricia Woodin, Charles Tingle, Dr, Mark Johnson, Donna Viverette, Mike Chadwick, Nate Emswiller, Eric Butler, Robert Cantwell, Mike Elliott, Thomas Gorman, Ramey Johnson, Erin Logan, Jim McCormick, Ronn Nixon, Brian Richardson, Jordan Wellington, Jeanie Rossillon, Max Raileanu..