

**SANDS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
Special Meeting
November 7, 2019**

1. Call to Order at 5:30 PM by Planning Commission Chair S. Brauer
2. Roll Call: S. Brauer, A. Burbey, S. Sundell, P. Lajewski-Pearson, J. Yelle & C. Bushong
 - a. Absent: None
 - b. Others in Attendance: Randy Yelle, Carolyn Kerkela, James Ledford, V. Sevegney, Chris Sevegney, Debra Hrejla, Ted Balzarini, Chris Kirk, Gerald Klar, and others.
 - c. Introduction of new Commissioner: R. Yelle introduced James Ledford, who will be appointed to the Planning Commission at the next Township Board meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda: Motion by A. Burbey, Supported by C. Bushong, to approve agenda as presented. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2019: Motion by P. Lajewski-Pearson, Supported by S. Sundell, to approve the minutes of September 17, 2019 as presented. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.
5. Public Comment: 2 people reserved time to speak during the Public Hearing.
6. Business:
 - a. Public Hearing: Request from Debra Hrejla, Cannabis Lupus Café, for a Commercial Marihuana Facility – Provisioning Center.
 - i. Open Public Hearing: S. Brauer opened the Public Hearing at 5:35.
 - A. Staff Input: R. Yelle explained the Township Ordinance and process for approval. He has reviewed the site plan, application, and supporting documentation; all requirements are in place and they have pre-qualification from the State of Michigan.
 - B. Requester Input – D. Hrejla explained their focus on compliance and security, and welcomes concerns and questions.
 - C. Public Input –
 - a. Jim Ledford is against the facility. He distributed information and is particularly concerned about community safety.

- b. Gerald Klar is concerned because marihuana is still a federally outlawed drug. He is focused on protecting children and emphasizes safety.
 - c. Chris Sevegney is against the facility. He agrees with previous comments and does not want drugs in the community. He has concerns about property value.
 - d. Ted Balzarini is against the facility. This is a federally outlawed drug and he does not want it in the community.
 - e. Chris Kirk lives adjacent to the commercial zone and is concerned about impacts to the lifestyle and neighborhood. He hopes measures are taken to not impact neighbors.
- ii. Close Public Hearing: S. Brauer closed the Public Hearing at 5:44.
- A. Commissioner Member Discussion: Commissioners discussed and asked questions related to security, surveillance, products available for sale, facility operation, building setup, lighting, hours of operation, employees, waste disposal, signage, and adjacent businesses; D. Hrejla answered questions.
 - B. **Motion by A. Burbey, Supported by C. Bushong, that, after conducting the required public hearing, receiving input from Township staff, the requester (Ms. Hrejla) and the public, reviewing the Township's Commercial Marihuana Facilities Ordinance Number 57, and after reviewing requester's provided documentation, including State of Michigan prequalification approval, therefore, the Sands Township Planning Commission is hereby recommending approval by the Sands Township Board of Trustees for the proposed Provisioning Center, 'Cannabis Lupus Café' at 300 State Highway M-553 with the following conditions:**
 - a. **Must comply with all State of Michigan Laws,**
 - b. **Must comply with all local Ordinances and Laws,**
 - c. **Exterior lighting, especially in the rear of the building (#30 on site plan), must face downward.**
- Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.**

7. 2020 Meetings

- a. 2020 Meeting Dates: S. Brauer moved, C. Bushong supported, to set 2020 meeting dates for January 21, April 21, June 16, July 21, September 15, and October 20, with a start time of 6:30 PM. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

- b. Officers for 2020: S. Brauer moved, S. Sundell supported, to approve S. Brauer as Chair, C. Bushong as Vice-Chair, and P. Lajewski-Pearson as Secretary for 2020. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
8. Administrative Report:
- a. Violation Report: R. Yelle gave an update on violations and progress in the Township.
 - b. Authority Update: R. Yelle gave an update on MCSWMA activity and progress for the new recycling program.
 - c. Draft Ordinance #59 – R. Yelle provided copies of the draft Ordinance and asked for input and comments by the end of the year.
9. Public Comment:
James Ledford asked about the height allowed for a privacy fence.
10. S. Brauer adjourned meeting at 6:23 PM.

S. Brauer
Chairman

P. Lajewski-Pearson
Secretary

C. Kerkela
Recording Secretary