

SUMMARY MINUTES



Medical Marijuana Advisory Board Webex Online Meeting Wednesday, September 16, 2020 | 1:30 pm

Board Members Present

Arby Barroso, Chair	Abby M. Freedman	Terrence Davis
Seth A. Hyman	Dustin Robinson, Esq.	
Scheril Murray Powell	Josh Davis	

Board Members Absent

Ed Rebholz, Vice Chair	Jay Work
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County Staff

Cyril Saiphoo, Staff Coordinator, PDMD	Kristin Carter, CAO
Monique Davis, PDMD	

Attendees

Jeff Greene

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Arby Barroso at 1:38 PM.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Mr. Saiphoo. A quorum was met with seven (7) members present.

3. Approval of Minutes – July 8, 2020

MOTION: Member Hyman moved to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Member Murray Powell. All in favor. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Chair Comments/Comments

None.

5. New Business

a. MMAB Virtual Summit (taken out of turn)

Mr. Green mentioned that speakers would include those licensed to prescribe medical marijuana. Members of the public would be invited to attend. Member Murray Powell suggested reaching out to the Florida Board of Medicine as well as South Florida hospitals and the medical community networking events. Member Freedman expressed interest in educating insurance companies and hospital administration/leadership as well, regarding issues with restrictions on hospital privileges. Member Hyman suggested that inviting doctors who prescribe epidiolex and cannabis.

Chair Barroso steered the discussion and ask the board (MMAB) what the primary goal of the summit should be. Member Robinson mentioned that employee protections is an important issue to address and that the MMAB should seek to get a County ordinance passed. Member Murray Powell proposed making this subject part of a broader topic on barriers to patient access.

Mr. Saiphoo reminded the MMAB that there was a motion passed to write a letter to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), encouraging them to pass and implement employee protections, and that this could be a good follow-up to that action. Member Robinson asked if the MMAB would also be able to make a presentation directly to the BOCC. Chair Barroso requested that Member Robinson gather data on employee issues related to use of cannabis. Member Robinson also mentioned that there are good models in other states of municipal ordinances that Broward County could use.

Mr. Saiphoo asked Ms. Carter to let the MMAB know how they might be able to present to the BOCC. Ms. Carter offered the following: ask a commissioner to sponsor and make a motion to discuss; transmit a formal memo from the MMAB to the BOCC through County staff; and/or speak to a commissioner as a resident of their district. Member Robinson expressed that he prefers to have a record of the MMAB transmitting a formal memo to the BOCC and make a presentation to them.

Ms. Carter reminded the MMAB that any topic be considered for action by the board must be publicly noticed. Therefore, the board members discussed scheduling a separate meeting to discuss making a motion to send a formal memo to the BOCC and/or present at a commission meeting. Member Murray Powell offered to assist Member Robinson with drafting the memo. She also suggested focusing the summit on the cannabis industry's response to the pandemic. Member J. Davis posed a question about whether Broward County has authority to enact labor laws and what employer categories may need to be carved out of a proposed ordinance. Member Robinson responded that the County does have a Human Rights ordinance (16 ½) that could be the most appropriate method to do so. Members Murray Powell and Robinson clarified by mentioning that there is a distinction between on- and off-site use and for intoxication on the job.

MOTION: Member Dustin moved to schedule a special meeting on September 23, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss employment protections as it relates to medical cannabis patients as well as people taking other hemp products, and to discuss making a presentation regarding this topic. Seconded by Member Murray Powell. Member Freedman voted against the motion. Motion passed 6-1.

MOTION: Member J. Davis moved to defer the discussion of the summit agenda to the special meeting on September 23rd. Seconded by Member Robinson. Member Freedman voted against the motion. Motion passed 6-1.

b. Suggested Language Proclamation Recognizing Cannabis Industry Essential Workers

Member Murray Powell sponsored and drafted the proclamation and requested feedback from the board members.

MOTION: Member Murray Powell moved to defer this item to be discussed during the special meeting on September 23rd. Seconded by Member Robinson. All in favor. Motion passed 7-0.

c. Amended 2020 State Legislative Program

Mr. Saiphoo clarified that the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs is requesting all advisory boards provide any input in the County’s legislative program. Member Murray Powell requested that the MMAB recommend the Hemp-Derived CBD Consumer Protection and Market Stabilization Act, MORE Act, Climate Stewardship Act, and Agricultural Resilience Act to be added to the program as legislation that the MMAB supports.

MOTION: Member Murray Powell moved to include support for the Hemp-Derived CBD Consumer Protection and Market Stabilization Act, MORE Act, Climate Stewardship Act, and Agricultural Resilience Act as part of the County’s 2020 legislative program. Seconded by Member Robinson. All in favor. Motion passed 7-0.

Member Freedman had to leave the meeting shortly before adjournment.

MOTION: Member Robinson moved for the MMAB to convey to the BOCC support for House Bill 595 and Senate Bill 962, and any bill that provide for employee protections for medical marijuana patients. Seconded by Member Murray Powell. All in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

6. Old Business

None.

7. Public Comments

None.

8. MMAB MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Chair Barroso thanked Member Robinson for his comments and efforts.

9. STAFF COORDINATOR REPORT/COMMENTS

None.

10. Adjournment

Chair Barroso moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Member Hyman. Meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Medical Marijuana Advisory Board (MMAB):

- Advise and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for improving operations and services for growing, processing, and selling medical marijuana for qualified patients and users
- Obtain information concerning medical marijuana and related matters within Broward County
- Provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding regulations and fees related to medical marijuana treatment centers
- Develop programs to educate the citizens of Broward County as to the benefits and disadvantages of the use of medical marijuana

Disclosure: The above captioned minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting, approved summary minutes, or any presentation or handout materials, submit a public records request through Planning and Development Management Division, 954-357-8695.