

Cannabis Advisory Committee Meeting: Thursday, June 8, 2023

Members present (13):

Dr. Imani Brown
Jeremy Brown
Robin Christensen
Matthew Clifford
Christine De la Rosa
Antonio Frazier
Joann Iwamoto
Dr. Ellicott Matthay
Kristin Nevedal
Sara Payan-Pehrson
Madison Shockley, III
Paul Tupy
David Woolsey

Committee members absent:

Chair Jamalian
Amber Baur
Terry Brennand
Matthew Broad (non-voting alternate)

DCC Staff Present:

Jacqueline Champion
Shannon George
Tamara Colson
Sara Gardner
Angela McIntire-Abbot

Meeting Moderator:

Nina Lemke, DCC
Leonard Lithen, DCC

Minutes Taken By:

Sara Hill, Court Reporter
Alicia Garispie, Court Reporter
Margaret Goldbar, DCC

Meeting Minutes – Thursday, June 8, 2023, 10:00 am

Committee Administration

1. Call to order and roll call

Vice Chair Nevedal called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

General Public Comment

2. Public comments for items not on the agenda

Vice Chair Nevedal opened the floor to public comments on items not on the agenda. Public comments were provided by:

Jeff Pollard, DVM

No other requests, Closed at 10:08

Committee Administration

3. Equity Subcommittee Update

Member Shockley gave an update on the equity subcommittee

Motions proposed by the equity subcommittee:

- Recommend that the full Advisory Committee recommend that DCC collect data about all owners (defined as those 10% or more interest) of cannabis licenses, including race, ethnicity, veteran status, gender identity, personal savings and resources used, whether they have been a victim of a crime, arrests and convictions, education level, conviction rates (owner or immediate family member), how did you raise capital and how much equity did you give up, how difficult was it to find compliant real estate, and how many properties did you pursue before securing one.
- Recommend that the full Advisory Committee recommend that DCC assess the retail shelf space devoted to social equity brands

Vice Chair Nevedal then opened the floor for public comments.

Public comments provided by:

Emily Porter:
Jason Soroosh
Ross Gordon
Judy Stang
Lillian Grace
Mike Snell
Pwalker
Margro Advisors
John Brower

Public Comments closed at 10:51

Vice Chair Nevedal then re-opened committee discussion. Two amendments were proposed for the motions from the equity committee.

Friendly amendment 1 modified the motion to include sexual orientation.

The amendment was proposed by **Member Shockley**, and was seconded by **Dr. Imani Brown**.

Vice Chair Nevedal called for a vote on adopting the friendly amendment.

Votes:

Aye: 11

Nay: 1

Member de la Rosa was not present at time of voting.

Motion passed.

Friendly amendment 2 was to add seizures, detentions, and raids to the language of the original motion.

Member Shockley proposed the amendment. It was seconded by **Vice Chair Nevedal**.

Votes:

Aye: 12

Nay: None

Member de la Rosa was not present at time of voting.

Motion passed.

Member Shockley then proposed they adopt the first and second amendments simultaneously and vote on the modified motion as a whole.

Vice Chair Nevedal seconded this recommendation and moved to a vote.

Vote to adopt the amended motion from the equity subcommittee:

Ayes: 13

Nays: None

Motion passed.

At this point **Vice Chair Nevedal** called for a short break.

Break began at 11:13 and ended at 11:21 with quorum re-established.

4. Laboratory Subcommittee Update

Member Frazier gave a presentation from the laboratory subcommittee. He outlined his goals and presented four recommendations to the committee for discussion, but clarified he only wished the committee to take up the final three recommendations as the first needed revisiting.

Vice Chair Nevedal then opened the floor to public comments.

Public Comments provided by:

Matt Garray and Raquel from PSA Labs

Josh Sweeter

Lillian Grace

Shelly D, Department of Pesticide Regulation

Matt Garrey

Sarah Otis

Member Frazier then moved to adopt the three recommendations. The motion was seconded by **Vice Chair Nevedal**.

The committee then voted on the adoption of the three following recommendations:

- That DCC regulations define which products can be used during matrix specific validation.
- That DCC establish a process to approve ISO 17034 proficiency testing providers.
- That DCC regulations require a distributor or laboratory to hold a specified amount of cannabis or cannabis product for confirmation testing.

Votes:

Ayes: 13

Nays: None

Motions passed.

Vice Chair Nevedal then called for a lunch break until 12:40

5. Public Health and Community Impact Subcommittee Update

Member Matthay gave an update on the subcommittee.

The subcommittee recommended: That DCC continue to work with the California Department of Public Health to convene a balanced expert scientific task force exempt from conflicts of interest (i.e., no financial interest) to review the scientific literature on the issue of increasingly high THC potency of cannabis products and to make public health recommendations to cannabis regulatory agencies and to the public; that this work be a priority for DCC regardless of funding available from CDPH; and that this work be completed urgently and no later than within the next 12 months.

Member Matthay made a motion to make a friendly amendment to the recommendation to clarify it refers only to adult-use cannabis.

The motion was seconded by **Member Woolsey**.

A second friendly amendment was proposed by **Member Matthay** to add language "... the next 12 months, with the option to revise recommendations as new data or evidence comes to light." This was seconded by **Vice Chair Nevedal**.

Public Comments were provided by:

Amy Jenkins, CCIA

Joanna

Dr. Lynn Silver, PHI

Dr. Sherry Yafai

KC
Jason Soroosh
Sarah Armstrong

Committee discussion then continued.

Member Matthay made a motion to adopt the recommendation with the two friendly amendments. This was seconded by **Vice Chair Nevedal**.

Recommendation: Recommend that the DCC continue to work with the CDPH to convene a balanced expert scientific task force, exempt from conflict of interest, i.e. no financial interests, to review the scientific literature on the issue of increasingly high THC potency of **adult use** cannabis products and to make public health recommendations to cannabis regulatory agencies and to the public. We recommend that this work be a priority for DCC, regardless of funding available from CDPH, we recommend that this work be completed urgently and no later than the next 12 months, **with the option to revise the recommendations as new data or evidence comes to light.**

Votes:

Ayes: 10

Nays: none

[Note: Three members did not vote as they were either away from their keyboards or had previous obligations that caused them to leave the meeting early.]

Motion passed.

6. Future Agenda Items

Vice Chair Nevedal clarified the next meeting would take place in September and opened the floor to the members for any agenda suggestions.

Member Matthay said that she would like to hear an update from DCC on the recommendations we have already made.

Vice Chair Nevedal requested to hear if there has been any movement from DCC on the change to licensing fees, or if a fee study has been done.

Vice Chair Nevedal opened the floor for public comments, however, there were none.

7: Adjournment

Vice Chair Nevedal closed the meeting at 1:43 pm.