

**City of Brighton
200 N. First St. Brighton, MI 48116
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2021**

The Board for the Planning Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., conducted electronically.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chuck Hundley, Mike Schutz, Dave Petrak, Steve Monet, Jim Bohn, Matt Smith, Ken Schmenk, and Susan Gardner. All members participated remotely and disclosed their locations.

Commissioners Absent: Bill Bryan

Also present: Attorney Laura Genovich, Foster Swift; Jill Bahm, Giffels Webster; Michael Caruso, Community Development Manager; Kelly Haataja, Executive Assistant to Community Development, and an audience of twenty-one (21).

Motion by Gardner, supported by Schutz to excuse Commissioner Bryan for personal reasons. **Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.**

2. Consider Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Consent Agenda Items

- a. Approval of the October 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of the October 18, 2021 Agenda

Motion by Bohn, supported by Petrak to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.**

3. Call to the Public

Chairperson Smith opened the Call to the Public at 7:04 p.m.

Omar Saleh, Diamond Cannabis Company, Novi, MI, stated his company is excited about the progress being made towards the cannabis ordinance in Brighton, and they are looking forward to the opportunity to present.

Megan Palmer, Livingston County Catholic Charities and Livingston County Community Alliance, Howell, MI, spoke about the potency of today's THC and its effects on youth.

Mike Panczyk, Wendover Ct. Green Oak Township, stated the City of Brighton biennial survey indicates the people do not want marijuana businesses. He further spoke in opposition of marijuana businesses.

John Conely, Green Oak Township, spoke in opposition of marijuana facilities in Livingston County.

Teresa Panczyk, Green Oak Township, spoke in opposition of marijuana in Brighton.

Susan Bakhaus, Brighton Lake Road, stated she is 100% against marijuana businesses in the City, and they should be placed in Brighton Township instead.

Jordan Genso, Woodlake Circle, spoke in support of the City's intention to find locations for facilities.

Hearing and seeing no further comments, Chairperson Smith closed the Call to the Public at 7:19 p.m.

Old Business

None

New Business

4. Extension Request Site Plan 20-03 – Vista at Uptown, DTN Management Co.

Mr. John Woods, DTN Management provided the Commission with an update of the project delay and respectfully requested a one-year extension to the site plan.

Motion by Gardner, supported by Schmenk to extend Site Plan 20-03, Vista at Uptown, DTN Management Company. **Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.**

5. Consider zoning standards to permit cannabis facilities in the City of Brighton, as directed by City Council

Mr. Caruso offered an introduction on the topic, noting City Council has tasked the Planning Commission to draft zoning ordinances and define possible locations for two testing and two retail recreational marijuana facilities, and report back in sixty days.

Ms. Bahm, Giffels Webster, offered an overview of the cannabis industry and background of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA). She reviewed potential impacts and municipal considerations when determining standards, reasonable regulations, design standards, energy use, and community benefit.

Ms. Genovich, Foster Swift, presented a variety of legal issues arising from ordinances being challenged by unsuccessful applicants. She further discussed exclusionary zoning, buffering, and ballot-initiated ordinance petitions.

Planning Commissioners discussed review of buffers, traffic generation, hours of operation, parking, odor mitigation, security measures, design standards, proximity to downtown, zoning districts, and visibility as topics for their next discussion.

Other Business

None

6. Staff Updates

Mr. Caruso requested feedback on the idea of the City issuing a city email for Planning Commissioners. The board had brief discussion on the matter.

7. Commissioner Report

None

8. Call to the Public

Chairperson Smith opened the Call to the Public at 9:06 p.m.

Hearing and seeing no comments, Chairperson Smith closed the Call to the Public at 9:06 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Monet, supported by Schmenk to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried by a roll call vote, with Commissioner Petrak voting no.** Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Matthew Smith, Chairperson

***Kelly Haataja, Executive Assistant
to Community Development***