

Auburn Planning Commission

May 17, 2011

Minutes Regular Meeting

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by chairman.

Member / represents /	term end in	Present	Absent	Reason
Black, Gary – Secretary / <i>industry & agriculture</i>	‘12	-yes	-	-
Everitt, Leo – Vice Chair / <i>education</i>	‘12	-no	-yes	-----
Haeger, Don – Chmn. / <i>transportation & communications</i>	‘14	-yes	-	-
LaBrecque, Lynn / <i>recreation & tourism</i>	‘13	- yes	-	-
Rezmer, Amy ./ <i>City Commission</i> /	----	-no	-yes	- arrived @ 7:12
Salisbury, Bill / <i>natural resources & public health</i>	‘13	-yes	-	-
Wisniewski, Al / <i>commerce</i>	‘14	-yes	-	-
Staff	* e-mail @ <i>auburnmi.org</i>			
Jo Ella Krantz – City Administrator	jkrantz*	-yes	-	
Karen Bellor – City Clerk	kbellor*	-no	-yes	
Public?		Yes		

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Motion by Black that the agenda be approved as presented, that minutes for March 15, 2011 be approved as presented and approve excused absences. Second by Salisbury. Motion carried.
3. The floor was opened to Public Comments on agenda items: The only item on the agenda was a continuation of our discussion of the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MMA) and Auburn’s response relative to Planning Commission issues.

During public comments, three people connected to a proposed new business at 100 West Midland Road (corner of Midland and Auburn Road) addressed the commission, answering our questions. Information included the following:

- Business name: *Dr. Feelgood’s Herbal Care Center*.
- Owners: Mike Boks, Randi March- both present. Jeff Snyder, absent.
- Assistant to business: Chad Federspiel
- Randi March identified herself as a MMA caregiver and patient. Mike Boks identified himself as a MMA patient.
- Phone number to reach Mr. Boks – 1-989-513-8336
- Anticipated hours of operation: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10-8, Saturday 10-6.
- The proposed business was described as a combination of herbal retail; MMA education for patients/public; and a place where transfers of medical marijuana can occur: between a caregiver (Randi March) and her assigned patients; between Ms March acting as a patient meeting other patients; and between “members” of Dr. Feelgood’s Herbal Care Center.
- Revenue for the business (apart from the herbal remedies) would come from three sources related to medical marijuana:
 - Membership fees in a *Friend and Family Club*
 - Rental fees from 32 locked “mailboxes”
 - A percent of the fee exchanged in the transfer of marijuana

- The lockers (mailboxes) would be under security in the store, with limited number of people: either just Ms March and a patient she deals with or Ms March accompanying two medical marijuana patients who are transferring between themselves.
 - The owners anticipate 24/7 presence of themselves or employed security.
 - The owners expect to comply with state law and set a standard of performance for such a business.
 - The owners anticipate selling smoking “paraphernalia”
 - The owners see themselves as a *Compassion Club* in concept.
 - Confirmation of validity of MMA patient cards would be through requests for additional photo ID’s, copies of checks or money orders to the State of Michigan for MMA patients cards. Because of the Michigan backlog for patient applications the business will assume a patient card is valid if the State has held it (the check or money order) more than 21 days.
 - There would be no smoking on premises. Owners said they would intend to “blacklist” club members who flaunted state law and smoked outside of the store.
 - Marijuana prices (as a frame of reference for the Planning Commission) were described as follows:
 - High quality medicinal marijuana could be worth \$650 for two ounces.
 - In the area, \$200-\$250 per ounce is a rule of thumb.
 - Most caregivers provided one ounce per month free, charge for the rest to recover costs of production.
 - Although most discussions would talk in terms of “sales”, the owners said technically the charges are for “transfers” and cost recovery.
 - The owners describe businesses such as theirs to provide a way to manage “surplus” marijuana. [Note: The Planning Commission was not sure during the discussion whether the State Law provides any protection to a “surplus” beyond the 2.5 gram limit per patient.]
4. At 8:20 p.m. the Commission took up unfinished business.
- The Planning Commission will continue to explore options involving limits or controls on medical marijuana caregivers as a home occupation.
 - We will ask Commissioner Everitt to extend an invitation for our July meeting to the owner of a marijuana dispensary who is a business neighbor in Pinconning.
 - We are asking the City Manager to talk with the Pinconning City Manager about their governmental response.
 - Commissioner Black was invited to the first City Commission meeting in June.
5. The floor was opened again to public comments. Mary Boks, from Williams Township, expressed concern about some operational limitations that could/should be placed on any medical marijuana business.
6. Motion by Black for adjournment at 9 p.m. Second by Salisbury. Motion carried.

Don Haeger
Chairman

Gary Black
Secretary