Adult-Use Cannabis Committee Minutes of Jan 23, 2019 Meeting 6:00 PM at Town Hall

Attending: Brigham Pendleton, Hughes Pope, Dana Lee (staff) and Jim Tessier (public)

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:15 PM, as one member was a little late.

- Roll Call: The Town Manager discussed how since only two members remain on the committee
 that both must be in attendance to do any business. It was noted that we really need other
 members.
- 2) Public Comment: Mr. Tessier discussed how the North Hampton, Mass new cannabis store was causing traffic issues and police details had to manage the situation daily. He noted that we must think of the costs of support services if we permit recreational cannabis sales. He noted that he thought the state was keeping all tax revenues (true). He suggested we reach out to other communities now allowing this and see how it affected their service costs, etc. Brigham acknowledged the concern, but added that such a calling of new people to the facilities would also benefit contractors, stores, etc. Hughes said that there are ways potentially to get funds from the store owners; he also suggested the new Governor may amend the law to allow a portion of revenues to go to the host towns. Jim suggested we take it slowly; see how it rolls out in other towns first.
- 3) Minutes Approval: Brigham noted a few typos, but suggested they be approved anyway as the content is correct. Hughes made a motion, Brigham seconded and it was so voted 2-0 to accept the minutes as written.
- 4) Public Forum Preparation: Dana had initiated an "agenda" from which the group worked. Discussed how the forum would go, who was getting handouts, snacks, getting more of the handouts on the web site, sending out the invitation again, taking notes, facilitating the meeting, etc. (see attached)
- 5) Retro from Planning Board: The key takeaway was that we needed to better understand their timeline to get an ordinance. Dana said he would inquire.
- 6) Cannabis Perspectives: Brigham indicated that he is working on a document that will try to address noted concerns about allowing sale of cannabis in our community. The group discussed suggesting the Planning Board consider broader zoning than Rte 236 for the cultivation aspects (only) of the law. May be better in rural areas. Dana was asked to check with his state lobbying folks about any change in the law / sharing revenues.
- 7) The next meeting will be on 2/27 at 6:00 PM
- 8) Hughes made a motion to adjourn the meeting; this was seconded by Brigham and was so voted 2-0.