

MINUTES

CITY OF PLACERVILLE
CANNABIS COMMUNITY BENEFIT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, March 7, 2023 - 3:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL, 549 MAIN STREET, PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by **City Manager Morris** at 3:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Members went around the room and introduced themselves to each other. **City Manager Morris** discussed the public meeting process in brief.

Members Present: Catherine Silvester, Benjamin Hawthorne, Annie Aubrey, Kelly Chiusano, Chief Joe Wren, City Manager Cleve Morris, Community Services Director Terry Zeller

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: None

Public Present: None

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA.**

Adoption of the Agenda was moved by **Chief Joe Wren** and seconded by **Member Chiusano**. **Motion carried 7-0.**

4. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.**

Member Silvester nominated **Member Aubrey** as Chair, and was seconded by **Member Hawthorne**. **Member Hawthorne** nominated **Member Chiusano** as Vice Chair and was seconded by **Member Silvester**. **Motion carried 7-0.**

5. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC:**

No comments received.

6. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

No Informational Items were discussed.

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- a. Discussion of Meeting Times for Future Meetings

Chair Aubrey led the discussion on date, time and day of the recurring meetings. Input was received from all members, and it was decided that the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 3:30pm would be the schedule for the first few meetings, until there was sufficient input on establishing a process so as to change the interval to

monthly meetings in the future. This date, time and day was moved by **Chief Wren** and seconded by **Vice Chair Chiusano**. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Report on Available Funding

City Manager Morris reported to the Committee on the current balance of funding in the benefit account, which was around \$77,000, and the expected average for each quarter would be around \$21,000. **Vice Chair Chiusano** commented that this tax represents 1% of the total tax received by the city based on retail sales of the existing cannabis businesses. **City Manager Morris** also discussed funding projects annually vs. considering multi-year projects that may be a higher dollar amount than the average annual intake for the benefit. **City Manager Morris** also commented that the report would be updated quarterly.

c. Discussion of Guidelines for Potential Projects/Programs

City Manager Morris introduced the process of developing how projects are brought forward, and discussed different ways to select projects. **City Manager Morris** also started the discussion on examples of guidelines for decision making on projects and programs. **Chair Aubrey** asked if it could be an application process like is standard for many types of grants. **Vice Chair Chiusano** suggested that it would be more appropriate for projects to come to us rather than soliciting proposals. **Member Silvester** added that this would have the advantage of making it easier to track those interested. **Chief Wren** commented that these types of funding opportunities attract a lot of people asking for money, it would be a good idea to approach service organizations that the city is already familiar with to deliver project proposals, especially those who have demonstrated good past performance. **City Manager Morris** disclosed to the group the need, as an example, of the PD needing a new Shield volunteer car, stating that these projects are the types of things that the city would put forward for consideration. **Vice Chair Chiusano** said that park improvements are a good example. **Member Hawthorne** mentioned his experience with groups that don't have a good audit environment around them tend to have funding disappear without something to show for it, and therefore applications with specific goals that could be measured would be a good guideline to impose. **City Manager Morris** clarified that these are city funds, and that they will be audited. Small projects could be funded through reimbursement from receipts, and larger projects may be paid through installments based on requests. **Member Hawthorne** stated that he is a fan of having things plainly spelled out, with guidelines following bullet points, keeping eligibility clear to applicants.

d. Process for Selecting Projects/Programs, Application, Committee Solicited, etc.

Chair Aubrey suggested the Chamber of Commerce would be a good resource to spread the word on the funding. **Member Hawthorne** added that the newspaper would also be a good resource. **Chief Wren** asked if there are committees that were already in existence that we could benefit from following their examples of applications, selection and other aspects of funding efforts already working

successfully in this manner and volunteered to do some research to find good examples. **Chair Aubrey** also volunteered to do a similar search for examples, and the rest of the group followed suit in this effort to do research and report back at the next meeting. **City Manager Morris** and **Chief Wren** discussed tangible vs. intangible projects. **Chair Aubrey** asked about limits to grant amounts, and **City Manger Morris** gave some examples. **Member Hawthorne** discussed private projects vs. city projects, and reaching out to other departments with unfunded projects. **City Manager Morris** stated that departments would provide the city's project lists, and that funding can roll over between years. **Member Hawthorne** asked if a portion of the funds could be held over to be invested in interest bearing accounts. **City Manager Morris** said that it was possible under some circumstances, but it is not a substantial amount. **Chief Wren** asked if the funds could be set up as matching. **City Manager Morris** answered that it would be possible and offered some examples.

8. STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS:

No communications at this meeting.

- 9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** **Chief Wren** moved that members bring examples of existing committee formats, templates and policies, and to bring projects to discuss at the next meeting. **City Manager Morris** added that he would love to get committee members' ideas also, and see a great combination of city and other projects.

- 10. NEXT MEETING:** **Chief Wren** moved that the next meeting take place March 21, 2023 at 3:30 pm, and follow the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month until they could be spread to monthly or quarterly based on the need to meet and discuss projects. The motion was seconded by **Member Silvester**. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT: The Meeting was adjourned by **Chair Aubrey** at 4:25 pm.