

Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Marijuana Commission
April 22, 2014
Metro Executive Building
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

Minutes

Commissioners Present

Dario Broccolino
William “Chris” Charles
Paul Davies, M.D.
Michael Horberg, M.D.
Robert Lavin, M.D.
Deborah Miran
Nancy Rosen-Cohen
Eric Sterling
Allison Taylor

Via Phone

Kevin Chen
Shawn McNamara

Commissioners Absent

Harry “Buddy” Robshaw

Staff

Sharon Bloom, Acting Executive Director
Brett Felter, Staff Attorney
Paula Hollinger, DHMH
Kristen Neville, Regulatory Coordinator, Health Occupations Boards and Commissions

Public

See list

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Davies. The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and accepted. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Nancy Rosen-Cohen, seconded by Michael Horberg.

Reports

Chairman’s report

Chairman Davies reported that the Commission is very different than it was a month ago. With the passage of SB 923/HB 881 the program has changed in was favorable to

everyone and he looks forward to the Commission developing regulations for a very successful program in Maryland. He apologized for missing the March Commission meeting and said that he, Sharon Bloom, Paula Hollinger and others were working in Annapolis the legislation. He also reported that Marie Grant has stepped down from her position on the Commission and Allison Taylor would be replacing her.

Counsel's Report:

Brett Felter addressed some issues of the Open Meetings Act. He stated that the public has a right to attend and view the proceeding but the Open Meetings Act does not guarantee a right to participate. He also said that recording of the meetings by members of the public is allowed as long as it does not interfere with the meeting.

Brett gave a brief overview of SB 923/HB 881. Brett asked Kristen Neville to give an overview of the Regulatory process. Kristen stated that once the Commission approves the Regulations they then go through the rest of the process which includes reviews and approvals by both the Secretary DHMH and AELR Committee of the Maryland General Assembly. Eric Sterling requested that the Commission ask for informal comments to the regulations prior to formal approval.

Executive Director's Report

Sharon Bloom reported that the Commission will be housed with the Health Occupations Boards and Commissions and will share the cost of "shared services" employees.

She also reported that she is organizing a Training Session for Commissioners in the next few months.

Committee Reports

Governance – Paul Davies said that the Governance Committee will structure of the sub-committees may make change to reflect the revised statute.

Policy – Eric Sterling reported that the Policy Committee met several times to review the informal comments from the initial set of draft regulations.

Finance/Education – Nancy Rosen-Cohen and Deborah Miran reported that they have completed research on other states and will work on drafting fees. Nancy also reported that Paul Davies will be speaking at a meeting of the Baltimore City Medical Society and the Monumental City Medical Society on May 8th.

Old Business – None

New Business- Paul Davies said that since the audience size has gotten so large that members of the public who have questions and testimony for the Commission should send them to the Commission prior to the meeting for review.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eric Sterling and seconded by Nancy Rosen-Cohen. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM.