



**Planning Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Bristol Town Office**

Committee Members present: Andrea Cox, Jeff Eilenberg, Patricia Jennings, Benjamin Pendleton and Andrew Poland (Alternate)

Also present: Jessica Westhaver and Joseph Rose

Public: Robert Davidson

Absent: Robert Cushing and Jason Lord (Alternate)

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Andrea Cox.

Old Business -

- Recreational Marijuana Ordinance Action.
 - Rob Davidson was in attendance to discuss action being taken on the Recreational Marijuana ordinance in the Town of Bristol. Davidson felt he was bringing information from potential growers in the Town, and with no Town regulation how it would affect them. He expressed that growers are currently unsure how to sell their product in the market. He stated the concern for out of state companies coming in and taking over the market in much larger production facilities and hurting the local grower. He would like to see a system that would promote local growers first before out of state companies come in. Davidson also proposed the Parks and Recreation Department be in charge of facilitating sales.
 - Davidson had approached Chairperson Cox prior to the meeting letting her know his concern. This prompted to do research on what issues could arise as well as what other States that have approved recreational marijuana are currently doing.
 - Concerns:
 - Large Companies coming in and putting the local grower out of business
 - If towns around us put up a ban on recreational sales, Bristol could become flooded with facilities without regulations in place.
 - Could food trucks come into Town and sell edibles and are they restricted.
 - Currently our Comprehensive Plan is not recognized by the state and we have no restrictive zoning.
 - How to regulate the different parts of marijuana (laboratories, processors, retailers, growers)
 - Ideas on how it could be regulated at Town level:
 - License Process similar to building permits
 - Limit Number of Licenses
 - Limit who is authorized to obtain a permit (only Bristol Residents)
 - Joseph Rose, CEO, spoke regarding Comprehensive Plan and that without zoning we cannot limit where facilities or shops can be located except within the Shoreland Zoning. Rose

spoke with CEO's from other towns and retail shops seem to be of lessor concern then production facilities.

- Rose also spoke on the option of a Moratorium. He spoke directly with MMA and found that while many towns are putting in place Moratoriums, there are stipulations. A Moratorium is only good for 180 days unless there is a reasonable explanation for extension. You must also be in the process in putting in place an ordinance or similar action.
- At the end of the discussion, the board discussed re-submitting the Comp Plan as it is currently written to see what changes the State would want to see as of current day. The entire board agreed to plan of action. If the Selectmen want the Planning Board to re-visit the Comp Plan there would need to be direction to do so.

Housekeeping –

- Minutes from the April 6th meeting were approved. A motion was made by Cox approve the minutes, Jennings Seconded; all in favor.

Follow-Up for next meeting:

- Provide Board members with State Moratorium Statute
- Rose to contact MMA regarding if a Comp Plan should be in place w/ a moratorium

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1st, 2017 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Westhaver
Planning Board Secretary

PLANNING BOARD APPROVED: _____