

**Newport Planning Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024 @ 6:00PM**

Present:

Planning Board: Chair K. Carsley, M. Pare, G. Phelps, R. Peck

Absent: F. Harding

CEO: A. Tempesta

Deputy Clerk: K. Kemp

Guests:

Gram's Five and Dime Med Shop: David Avery, Christina Avery, Tammy Smith, Mike Smith

GreenBear GreenCare: Eric Gustin

Karma Cannabis: Collin Popper

1. Call to Order: K. Carsley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

a. Pledge of allegiance

2. Public Access: None

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held 11/16/23: K. Carsley motioned to approve the minutes, so moved by R. Peck, G. Phelps and M. Pare were unable to second as they were not at the prior meeting, motion held until the next meeting.

4. Old Business: None

5. New Business

a. New Permit: Gram's Five & Dime Med Shop retail Medical Cannabis Store located at 36 Main St, Newport, Me. Owned by David Avery: The store will be opening in a few weeks, date TBD. Currently, the store provides recreational product, however, they are opening this separate store in the same building for Medical Cannabis. The store has been successfully inspected by the CEO, Police, and Fire. All requirements have been met.

Collin Popper, owner of Karma Cannabis, asked if the Town planned to cap the number of Recreational and Medical Cannabis stores in Newport. K. Carsley and G. Phelps explained that the Town cannot limit the number of stores or restrict free enterprise.

David Avery from Gram's Five and Dime Medical Cannabis Store explained that this is not a new business, it has been relocated from Detroit. He also stated that it would be beneficial if other Town's opted in and allowed Cannabis establishments.

K. Carsley appreciated the guests' concerns.

G. Phelps made a motion to approve the new permit, so moved by K. Carsley, seconded by R. Peck, all in favor, motion carried to approve the new permit.

b. Renewal Permit: GreenBear GreenCare LLC Retail Medical Cannabis Store located at 531 Moosehead Trail in Newport, owned by Eric Gustin. The store has been successfully inspected by the CEO. R. Peck inquired if there had been any changes made since prior approval. E. Gustin stated that no changes have been made. Motion to approve the renewal permit by K. Carsley, so moved by G. Phelps, seconded by R. Peck, all in favor, motion to approve the renewal permit carried.

c. CEO A. Tempesta stated that a renewal permit for Brother's Cannabis will be presented at the next meeting in February.

6. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting K. Carsley, so moved by G. Phelps, seconded by R. Peck, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Kemp

Kathleen Kemp, Deputy Clerk

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 28, 2023.