MINUTES
CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
MARIJUANA COMMITTEE
WORK SESSION
Thursday, March 12, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
City Hall Assembly Chambers

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Jesse Kiehl called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Committee members present: Jesse Kiehl, Mary Becker, Maria Gladziszewski, Debbie White, Mike Satre, Bill Peters, and Gordon Jackson. Committee member Jerry Nankervis was absent.

Other Assemblymembers present: Assemblymember Loren Jones

Staff present: Kim Kiefer, City Manager; Rob Steedle, Deputy City Manager; Jane Sebens, Deputy Municipal Attorney; Deb Senn, Law Office Manager; Laurie Sica, Municipal Clerk; Chief Bryce Johnson, Juneau Police Department; Officer Ken Colon, Juneau Police Department; Hal Hart, Director, Community Development Department; and Beth McKibben, Senior Planner, Community Development Department

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bill Peters to approve the minutes, and asked for unanimous consent. Hearing no objection, the February 26, 2015 minutes were approved.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(20 minutes for public participation, 3 minutes per person)

Zachary Bowhay requested that the Committee allow for public comment at the end of Committee meetings.
V. AGENDA TOPICS

A. Rudiments of Cannabis


   Discussion topics included marijuana components and compounds, healing and nutritional aspects, basic cultivation techniques, vegetative cycle, flowering cycle, production of psychoactive resins/oils, harvesting, processing, curing, waste disposal, and growing methods.

2. Marijuana Concentrates, by Ben Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox demonstrated to the Committee how concentrates are produced using a variety of methods, including a screened shaker box, ice water, and boiling water.

   Mr. Wilcox said the resin is broken out from the leaf and trim producing concentrates. The concentrate can be used for butter infusion or vaporizing. This method eliminates the need to smoke the matter.

   The concentrated products are known as kief (pollen falls from leaf and produces a concentrate); and hash (matter combined with ice water, filters out microns/pollen to produce a concentrate).


   Discussion topics included the three main types of products - flowers, concentrates, and edibles; product pricing and dosage units; and labeling and copyright infringement. Mr. Barrett said the industry does not want product labels and containers that appeal to children, and will act responsibly toward children.

4. Butane Method of Gathering Plant Resins, by Zachary Bowhay. Mr. Bowhay demonstrated how to remove active compounds from plant matter using butane canisters and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe.

B. Update on State of Alaska Legislation

Ms. Mead informed the Committee that there are several bills pending with the Alaska Legislature, which include:
Senate Bill 60:   ESTABLISHING THE MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD;

House Bill 59:  MARIJUANA CONCENTRATES; LICENSES;

Senate Bill 30:   MARIJUANA REGULATIONS; CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE; CRIMES; DEFENSES;

Senate Bill 62:   REGULATION OF MARIJUANA BUSINESSES; BOARD;

House Bill 133:  NARROWING THE FOCUS OF SB 62 TO INCLUDE THE SAME ISSUES, AND LICENSING CONTEMPLATED BY THE STATE FOR BROKERS, GROWERS, BOUTIQUES, AND HOME GROWERS; and

House Bill 75:    MARIJUANA REGULATIONS; CLUBS; MUNICIPALITIES; LOCAL OPTION ELECT.

Ms. Mead added that the bills are moving forward, but there is no sense on status yet. More information will be available in the next few weeks.

Mr. Kiehl said all pending legislation is in flux, and that no bill has yet to cross over from its body of origin. The bill to watch will be the bill that crosses over to the next body. He added that there are a series of amendments pending for SB 30 – crimes bill, which is currently in the Senate Finance Committee.

Ms. Gladziszewski inquired about the November 24, 2015 deadline to adopt regulations.

Mr. Kiehl said that if the State does not pass a regulatory bill it will be left to the Marijuana Control Board to put a regulatory scheme in place by the November deadline. If regulations are not adopted by this date, local governments will have the option of adopting regulations.

Ms. Mead requested that the Committee provide a prioritized list of issues to formulate discussion. The relevancy of the issues will depend on what laws are passed by the legislature.

C. Prioritized List from CBJ Law Department

Ms. Mead said the issues contained in the prioritized list lend themselves for more information. Information will be provided on what action the State has taken and the consequences for municipalities.

Mr. Satre said that work should begin on land use issues first and foremost. The regulatory issues depend upon the State’s action.
Ms. Mead asked the Planning Commission members to provide a framework for discussion, and that the Law Department and the Community Development Department (CDD) would provide materials to facilitate that discussion.

Mr. Satre indicated that he had spoken with CDD and he would share that information with the Law Department.

D. Community Development Department – Marijuana & CBJ 49.25.300 Table of Permissible Uses, by Beth McKibben


Discussion topics included overview of the Table of Permissible Uses as it relates to marijuana cultivation, special use provisions, commercial and mixed use districts, building and land size development, conditional use permit requirements in residential areas, assembly of goods and storage, definition of manufacturing, applicable manufacturing category (for noise, vibration, and odor), retail miscellaneous sales, and home occupation.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Ms. Gladziszewski said that she had recently visited Telluride, Colorado, and brought back marijuana product containers to show to the Committee. Some of the containers appeared sophisticated and others not so much. Childproof containers were being used for edibles. Different stores provided containers from recycle bins – four separate containers were passed around.

Ms. Gladziszewski said that Telluride has its own licensing facility. Colorado law maintains a 10mg per serving size, and color coding is used to show the different strains of marijuana. A single serving edible is contained in a sturdy plastic container that cannot be entered without an instrument. The type of packaging depends on number of servings. Menus in the stores explained what affects to expect from each product.

One facility that Ms. Gladziszewski visited had refrigeration for products, and another store had marijuana in jars. She indicated that one store had been cited for odor problems. Signage in that particular store stated a citation had been issued for odor problems and that a remedy was required by law.

Mr. Peters said that while in Seattle the marijuana smoke/odor was very apparent in the downtown area, similar to cigarette smoke/odor. He spoke to police officers and transit personnel in Seattle who said most were turning a blind eye and tolerating the odor. Mr. Peters said this could be a contentious issue for Juneau, and that a conversation is needed on public smoking.
Ms. Gladziszewski said that she saw zero marijuana smokers in Telluride during her visit, and did not smell any marijuana smoke/odor. She said she would provide the Telluride zoning laws to the Committee and to the Law Department for review.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm

Note: Agenda packets are available for review at the Juneau Municipal Libraries and online at www.juneau.org

ADA Accommodations Available Upon Request: Please contact the Clerk’s office 72 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made to have a sign language interpreter present or an audiotape containing the Assembly’s agenda made available. The Clerk’s office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city_clerk@ci.juneau.ak.us.