

**COMMISSIONERS**  
 Nelson Miller, Chair  
 Ronald B. Hogan  
 Glenn Cronin  
 Diana Jeong  
 Deano Summers



**CANNABIS LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**City Hall, 215 Pleasant Street, Mayor’s Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Tuesday, May 24, 2023 at 5 PM**  
*This meeting was recorded.*

<b>Committee Members in Attendance</b>		
√	Nelson Miller, Chair	Bldg. Commissioner
√	Ron Hogan	Finance
√	Glenn Cronin	Chief of Police
√	Diana Jeong	Mayor’s Appt.
√	Deano Summers	Council Appt.
√	Kathleen Manning Hall	Clerk <i>Non-voting mem.</i>

**MINUTES**

1. **Roll Call of Committee members.** Meeting was called to order at 5PM and there was a quorum sufficient to conduct business.
2. **Approval of May 2, 2023 Minutes.** *Motion by Ron Hogan to approve the minutes of May 2, 2023; seconded by Chief Cronin. All in favor, Motion passes unanimously.*
3. **Discussion: Reopening application process/number of licenses.** The CLEC has the ability to choose how to operate: there is an ordinance and zoning laws but there is a need to establish a set of rules separate from the application process. The number of cannabis licenses available is subject to the percentage of liquor licenses the City has. Currently, Malden has 20 liquor licenses, so under that percentage the City would have four cannabis licenses. (The maximum number of liquor licenses the City is permitted to have is 28, which could bump up CLEC licenses to six.) When the CLEC was established, the number of cannabis licenses was set at five. At this point, two applicants are currently open, the third (DMS) is going before the City Council on June 6<sup>th</sup> to extend its Special Permit, the fourth (Benevolent Botanicals) is in litigation with the City, and the fifth (DRIS) has not moved forward with its location. As discussed above, Malden may now be capped at four licenses so at this time will not open up to another applicant. Each January 1<sup>st</sup>, the CLEC should establish (percentage wise) if the process should be opened to a new applicant. We need to suggest this ordinance change to the City Council to clarify.
4. **Discussion: Deadline re: Applicants approved by CLEC to Apply for Special Permits.** There are issues that were not considered when the CLEC Ordinance was approved that have since come up. One is that there is currently no deadline for an applicant to submit their application for their Special Permit. Currently the only deadline imposed on an applicant is that they must submit their application for a Special Permit within 60 days of their neighborhood meeting:
  - a. There is no rule that states (1) a deadline for which their meeting must be held by; or (2) how many neighborhood meetings the applicant may have. This is not fair to applicants

waiting to apply as the approved applicant can continue to hold public meetings indefinitely. Nelson suggested a 60-day maximum number of days in which an applicant must hold their neighborhood meeting from approval of CLEC. On the 61st day, the applicant has not met the requirement. At this point, applicants would be required to go back before the CLEC.

- b. Discussion ensued: Given the extensive approval process of an applicant before the CLEC, if their chosen location does not work out for valid reasons (i.e., unforeseen asbestos which would be costly to remediate), should the CLEC offer the applicant a reasonable amount of time (180 days) in which to acquire a new location?
5. **Discussion: Limitations on the number of community meetings per applicant.** Covered in paragraph number 4 above.
6. **Status Updates:**
- a. **Faded LLC Dris** – 53 Broadway – No updates.
  - b. **DMS Trinity** – 36 Charles Street – There is a public hearing on the extension of their Special Permit expiration date on June 6<sup>th</sup>. This will be heard by City Council and they will vote on it. If denied, they will not be allowed to come back for a Special Permit for two years.
  - c. **Benevolent Botanicals** – 926 Eastern Ave. – Litigation continues.
7. **New Business:** No new business.
8. **Next Meeting:** Aiming for the end of June, following the June 6<sup>th</sup> DMS Trinity public meeting. Ron will work on the set of rules described above. Kathleen will circulate and will present for a vote at the next meeting.

*Motion to adjourn at 5:35 PM by Chief Cronin and seconded by Deano Summers. All in favor, meeting is adjourned.*