



CANNABIS LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
 Board Room #105, Pleasant Street, Malden, MA
 Community to watch Via Zoom Webinar
 Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 5 PM
This meeting was recorded.

Committee Members in Attendance		
√	Jenelle DeVits, Chair	Council Appt.
√	Ron Hogan	Finance
√	Kevin Molis	Chief of Police
√	Nelson Miller	Bldg. Commissioner
√	Diana Jeong	Mayor's Appt.
√	Kathleen Manning Hall	Clerk <i>Non-voting mem.</i>

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call of Committee members.** Meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM and there was a quorum sufficient to conduct business. *Janelle DeVits was running late, Ron Hogan began the meeting.*
- 2. Review and approval of August 25, 2021 Minutes.** *Motion by Chief Molis to approve the minutes of August 25; seconded by Nelson Miller. All in favor, Motion passes unanimously.*
- 3. Benevolent Botanicals Financial Update.** Warren Lynch, Stee McMorris, Mike Clebnik and Gary Oshry (building owner) came before CLEC to provide an update on Benevolent Botanicals' financial situation. Since April they have been approved into the Social Equity Program and provided the letter. They have a team of experienced Cannabis attorneys, consulting company, architectural firms, and put together binders for all CLEC members. They have over \$1M in committed capital and are marching toward \$2M to be secured and believe the executed subscription documents they provided verify to the CLEC that they have the funding necessary to move forward. Ron believes that in order for the CLEC to approve them for a special permit, the CLEC has an obligation to ensure that they have secured the funding to ensure that. Mr. Oshry believes that they can do what they need to do with the \$1M they have secured. Nelson is concerned that they had a capital raise of \$2M, but they have \$1M currently. They are a social equity candidate, they are ready to begin if there is a shortfall, Mr. Clebnik will fund it with his money. Nelson feels strongly that the CLEC needs to be consistent in the same manner of all other applicants. If Mr.

Clebnik is able to guarantee the difference, and it doesn't affect ownership, that may be the way to go. Additionally, if the cost overall is less than \$2M they should revise the projections so that the CLEC can move them forward. Ron believes there is a disconnect and again explained that the CLEC and the applicant must check the same box. The CLEC has taken a different approach with this applicant since they have deep ties in Malden and have gone out on a limb but the standard must remain consistent. Mr. Clebnick will put the note up for the balance. He will get the document to Kathleen by the end of the week. Their aim is to be the first vertically integrated social equity cannabis business in MA.

4. *Ron requested that (1) New Business and (2) applicant communication be listed on all future agendas.*
5. **Next Meeting:** Benevolent Botanicals will come back on Wednesday, September 29th at 5PM.

Motion to adjourn at 6 PM by Nelson Miller, seconded by Ron Hogan, all in favor.