

MINUTES - MORRO BAY CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING – MARCH 1, 2017  
VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL  
209 SURF STREET – 4:00 P.M.

AGENDA NO: A-1  
MEETING DATE: March 28, 2017

PRESENT:	Jamie Irons	Mayor
	Robert Davis	Councilmember
	John Heading	Councilmember
	Matt Makowetski	Councilmember
	Marlys McPherson	Councilmember
STAFF:	Dave Buckingham	City Manager
	Chris Neumeyer	Assistant City Attorney
	Dana Swanson	City Clerk
	Ikani Taumoepeau	Deputy City Manager
	Jody Cox	Acting Police Chief

**ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Irons established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with all members present.

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ITEM:**

- I. PROPOSITION 64 AND MARIJUANA LAW WORKSHOP  
<https://youtu.be/IsPIKAFHvmQ?t=5s>

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

<https://youtu.be/IsPIKAFHvmQ?t=3m36s>

Mayor Irons opened public comment for items on the agenda.

Rick Morse of Medmar Clinic, Fresno, CA, shared his Clinic has been converted to a referral and consultation service. He believes in the medical aspect of marijuana but does not support recreational use.

Steve Babcock of Los Osos Collective Organics, provides medical marijuana delivery service in San Luis Obispo County and supports safe access for medical patients, including delivery to and brick and mortar dispensaries in Morro Bay.

Eric Powers, CEO of Megan's Organic Market, an organic cultivator and retail service, offered to answer questions, if needed.

Adam Pinterits of Ethnobotanica, a medical collective with patients across San Luis Obispo County, provided an information binder to the Council and offered to remain available to answer questions after the meeting

Rich Besco, driver for Ethnobotanica, spoke in support of medical and recreational marijuana use and asked the Council to have an open mind and consider all options.

Lindsay Schuban, Ethnobotanica, spoke in support of recreational and medical cannabis and shared the positive impact and need in our society.

Rigmor, Morro Bay, shared the positive impact medical marijuana has had on her friends and family members.

Megan of Megan's Organic Market, an organic commercial cannabis cultivator and retail delivery service, has been in operation four years and has 2,000 patients. She offered to answer questions, if needed.

Marie Roth, President of San Luis Obispo Cannabis Business Association, stated the goal of this non-profit association is to help the industry become legally compliant.

The public comment period was closed.

Assistant City Attorney, Chris Neumeyer, presented information for round table discussion by the Council and staff (PowerPoint available [here](#)).

<https://youtu.be/IsPIKAFHVmQ?t=15m22s>

Staff requested the Council consider possible further action on the following topics concerning Proposition 64 and marijuana law:

- Personal marijuana cultivation (indoor and outdoor);
- Personal marijuana use;
- Commercial marijuana operations (medical and recreational) which include dispensaries, cultivation sites, testing, manufacturing and delivery; and
- Marijuana taxation and fees.

Staff encouraged the Council consider definite further action to address the following issues which involve loss of local control if no action is taken:

- Regulation of indoor personal marijuana cultivation;
- Before January 1, 2018 determine whether to regulate or ban commercial marijuana operations which otherwise will be eligible for state licenses; and
- Before January 1, 2018 determine whether marijuana deliveries into the City, from lawful operations outside the City will be allowed or prohibited.

Following the presentation, the Council directed staff begin outreach with a community survey, conduct multiple community workshops divided by subject matter, then bring that community input back to Council. The proposed timeline was to allow six weeks for survey input, conduct workshops over the next two months, then report to Council.

The Council voted 5-0 to appoint Council Members Davis and McPherson to a marijuana subcommittee to review survey materials and provide input during the outreach process.

The Mayor reopened Public Comment:

<https://youtu.be/IsPIKAFHVmQ?t=2h3m7s>

Rick Morse, Medmar Clinic, stated there is a substantial difference between medical and recreational marijuana.

Adam Pinterits, Ethnobotanica, appreciated the discussion and suggested revenue might be considered a priority.

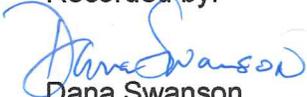
Eric Powers, Megan's Organic Market, discussed testing procedures, energy requirements for indoor gardens, and suggested rather than a lottery or first come first served, the City develop a selection process for choosing which businesses operate in the City

Cindy Gonzalez, Elite Care California, shared information regarding her business and the industry.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Recorded by:

  
Dana Swanson  
City Clerk