

Humboldt County Cannabis Micro-Grant & Loan Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, June 2nd, 2020
2:00 pm – 4: 30 pm
Via Zoom Web Conferencing

Project Trellis was established to bolster the cannabis industry, protect future cannabis excise tax revenues by providing services to populations and communities in Humboldt who were adversely affected by the criminalization of cannabis, develop a framework for supportive programs designed to sustain and grow Humboldt's cannabis industry, and to assist cannabis businesses as they work to overcome the financial and logistical challenges of coming into compliance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas Mulder – Miranda, CA, Jim Groeling – Whitethorn, CA, Sarah Balster-McKinleyville, CA, Rich Ames – Eureka, CA, Hannah Joy-Eureka, CA, Brian St. Clair – Garberville, CA, Thomas Handwerker – Eureka, CA

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: Catherine Carter, Scott Adair, Ryan Heitz,

1. Opening

a. Chair, Rich Ames, called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm.

A roll call was conducted, committee members stated where they were located, and a quorum was present.

b. There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

2. Approval of February 25th Meeting Minutes with Modification

It was moved by Thomas Mulder and seconded by Richard Marks to amend the previously adopted February 25th meeting minutes, with an additional modification that simplifies Thomas Mulder's statement to only state his concern of what another committee member reported. Chair called for public comment – none received. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of March 10th Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Thomas Mulder and seconded by Hannah Joy to approve the March 10th meeting minutes, with a modification noting the incorrect procedure followed during the meeting and striking the sentence after Item 4. Chair called for public comment – none received. Motion carried. Ayes – Richard Marks, Hannah Joy, Sarah Balster, Thomas Mulder, Rich Ames, Abstain- Jim Groeling

4. Discuss Changes to Micro-Grant Application and Micro-Grant Scoring and Ranking Guide

Thomas Mulder suggested reviewing the scoring process and having two scoring rounds for grant applications and it was recommended that the Committee have more meetings. It was also suggested that the grant summary applications be added to the original grant applications, so they will be filled out upfront. In addition, the Committee suggested categorizing the applications and ranking the applications by category.

Staff member, Ryan Heitz, explained the Project Trellis weighted scoring process. He explained the ranking process and how it mitigated any issues with large variances in scoring.

5. Meeting Extension

It was moved by Thomas Mulder and seconded by Hannah Joy to extent the meeting until 4:30 pm. Chair called for public comment – none received. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discuss the Creation of the Local Equity Program (LEP), Equity Application, and Equity Scoring and Ranking Guide

Scott Adair discussed the requirements and budget for the Equity Program. The board inquired about the criteria for the program and potential eligible applicants.

Hannah Joy suggested the use of the Equity Assessment recommendations for the Equity application's eligibility and weighted considerations.

1. Staff Updates

Staff gave an update about the inquiries into the Five Sister's Farm application and explained that County Council is looking into the eligibility for their full \$50,000 funding. There was also an update to the development of the grant agreements for applicants awarded funding during the first grant round. Staff also reminded the committee to review the redlined bylaws before their next meeting.

2. Adjourn

Chair, Rich Ames, adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 27th, 2020 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm