

Humboldt County Cannabis Micro-Grant & Loan Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, August 24th, 2020
1:00 pm – 2:00 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 – Garberville, CA, Jim Groeling – Whitethorn, CA, Sarah Balster-, CA, Rich Ames – Eureka, CA, Hannah Joy-Arcata, CA, Brian St. Clair – Garberville, CA, Thomas Handwerker – Eureka, CA, Mario Fernandez – Eureka, CA

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Groeling

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

1. Opening

- a. Vice Chair, Hannah Joy, called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm. Chair, Thomas Mulder, was unavailable to start the meeting, so Vice Chair, Hannah Joy, assumed the role of Chair to start the meeting. Thomas Mulder assumed the roll of chair at 1:10 pm and.
- b. A roll call was conducted, and each member stated their name and where they were located.
- c. There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

2. Approval of August 10th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Richard Marks and seconded by Mario Fernandez to approve the meeting minutes from August 10th, 2020, with a modification to the people in attendance: correct Hollie Hall to Holly Carter, remove Ryan Heitz, and adjust Hannah Joy's location to Arcata instead of Eureka. Chair called for public comment – none received. Motion Carried. Ayes – Richard Marks, Mario Fernandez, Sarah Balster, Hannah Joy, Thomas Mulder
Abstain – Rich Ames

3. Committee Updates

Committee members updates:

- Mario Fernandez – Mario reported that members of the public have been asking him about the grant scoring and ranking process.
- Thomas Handwerker – No Updates
- Hannah Joy – Hannah reported that members of the public asking about the Local Equity Program.
- Sarah Balster – Sarah spoke at the Humboldt County Human Rights Commission about Humboldt and equity in the Cannabis industry. She provided a YouTube link for the meeting.
- Richard Marks – No Updates
- Brian St. Clair – No Updates

Attachment 1

- Thomas Mulder – Thomas reported that he is also receiving inquiries about the Local Equity Program.
- Rich Ames – No Updates

4. Ad Hoc Scoring Committee Updates

Hannah Joy updated the committee on the following:

- Discussed application process and scoring rubric adjustments
- NOFA will be released with clear minimum requirements and staff will review the applications for those requirements
- Qualified applications will be presented to the committee and a report will be available with basic information on the applicants that did not meet the minimum criteria
- Committee will have more than one round of scoring
- Oral presentations will happen after the first round of scoring, then a second round
- Adjustments to the scoring sheet, including yes/no answers, not scores

Ryan Heitz also provided a rough draft of a potential adjustments to the scoring rubric

5. Staff Updates

Scott Adair updated the committee on the following:

- The full time Project Trellis Specialist has been hired
- The Cannabis Marketing Assessment has been completed
- The possibility of putting a fillable micro-grant application online
- Modifications to the LEP Assessment
- The status of the Five Sifers Farm application

6. Adjourn (2:11 pm)

It was moved by Richard Marks and seconded by Mario Fernandez to adjourn the meeting. Chari called for public comment – none received. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: September 28th, 2020 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm