

From: Laura Clein <koalaura18@yahoo.com >
To: "bos@mendocinocounty.org" <bos@mendocinocounty.org>
Date: 5/13/2019 4:26 PM
Subject: Re: cannabis cultivation ad hoc committee

May 14, 2019

Re: cannabis cultivation ad hoc committee

Dear Honorable Supervisors,

This letter begins with my appreciation for what you have done to date for the cannabis community, knowing you took this daunting task on long before the state regulations were finalized, regarding the county cannabis ordinance.

Ours was one of the first farms in Mendocino County to be permitted in 2017, we were also a part of the 9.31 program & we are happy to report we received our state provisional license yesterday. My husband attends many of the Board of Supervisors meetings, participated in the working groups, etc. I watch from home & write to you occasionally over the past few years on this topic. We are excited to be on this path with you...

I agree with many of the recommendations of the ad hoc committee.

SUPPORT changing language of the ordinance to more closely match the states language.

SUPPORT collecting info re: generators.

SUPPORT smaller nursery licenses to be made available to ALL cultivation sites, regardless of size.

STRONGLY SUPPORT scrutinizing & delaying phase 3 until more clarity can be given to those who apply

STRONGLY SUPPORT transferability, in every zone!!!

REPEAT

STRONGLY SUPPORT transferability, in every zone!!!

SUPPORT extending sunsets in coastal zone

RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE with annual LiveScan at county level when it duplicates what is needed from the state. It reminds me of the SIPCA vs. METRC situation.

SUPPORT social equity programs for small farmers

SUPPORT current setbacks, also support use permits, etc as needed to assess individual situations.

SUPPORT research of Rangeland options... but respectfully do not support if it means to exceed 10,000 sq ft &/or in others ways to the detriment of Phase 1 permit holders. My concern is the possibility it would force heritage farmers into expensive individual CEQA processes before the county & state have come to an agreement.

RESEPECTFULLY DISAGREE with current limits on adult cannabis cultivation (especially for medical use as I believe it should be a decision between a patient & their doctor). Please align with State regs for personal, medical & adult use.

SUPPORT 2 permits max to remain aligned with State regs.

SUPPORT Cooperatives, our farms is a founding member of the Round Valley Cannabis Co-op.

SUPPORT I appreciate staff researching permits per entity issues around the contractual relationships between permitted growers and corporate entities to determine if the intent of the cultivation ordinance needs further clarification. Since Prop 64 came into effect, we have been on the shelves in licensed California retailers as our own brand, Martyjuana. We have also white labeled for at least 8 other brands who are licensed distributors, manufacturers & retailers in this state, to date.

Side note: For us the while labeling has been necessary to get product to market however also a nightmare of a system to navigate. Since the regulatory flow does not allow us to do anything beyond cultivation without separate transport, distributor, etc. licenses which for most are financially not viable, even if they were zone appropriately which again, most are not. You have heard from us and other farmers repeatedly that we are being swindled every which way, with or without contracts in place... + market prices falling, over-taxation, fees, fees & more fees ... which we all thought we could handle but, then to not be able to collect what is owed on products because no one in the "regulatory scheme" pays upfront, has left every small farmer we know in a pinch caused mostly by no longer being able to connect with our customers. In our case , as a small size medical farm, we feel we are still patients helping patients. We will keep fighting for fair trade practices, like farmers markets, direct to consumer delivery services, etc. at the state level, eventually at the federal level. I hope there will be further communications about micro business permits, even in zones not usually used for such purposes, etc.

Memo 2:

SUPPORT further study of tree ordinance, especially with regard to clearing defensible fire breaks.

I agree with the recent quote in the SF Chronicle by our county CEO, “Carmel Angelo, executive officer of Mendocino County, said cannabis has become synonymous with the area. “I don’t think there’s any one of us who doesn’t have a friend or a family member who is involved in the cannabis industry,” she said. Her office has come to call weed the [fourth pillar of tourism](#), along with wine, waves and wilderness. Someday, she said, tour companies may fly visitors into the county’s underused airports to visit a cannabis farm, shop at a dispensary or stay in a “bud and breakfast” hotel.”

What is important to me is preserving the Mendocino County legacy as part of the world famous Emerald Triangle. The farmers of our county are known for being stewards of the land. Even most of our wineries are organic or biodynamic, our fruits & veggies non GMO, by law. Let’s continue to amplify this healthy heritage. We know Mendo is gold when it comes to the green lifestyle. We support the small craft farm model. We support cannabis tourism in that we support eco-friendly tourism. We are proud to be small farmers... it is, in fact, again this year what United Nations reports will save the world.

THANK YOU FOR YOU TIME & CONSIDERATION!
Laura Clein, Mendocino County resident, District 3