

SHASTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting

Date: October 19, 2017
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Shasta County Administration Center
Board of Supervisors' Chambers

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ROLL CALL

Commissioners

Present:	Roy Ramsey	District 4
	Tim MacLean	District 2
	Jim Chapin	District 1
	Steven Kerns	District 3
	Patrick Wallner	District 5

Staff Present: Kim Hunter, Planning Division Manager
James Ross, County Counsel
Lisa Lozier, Senior Planner
Dale Fletcher, CBO, Assistant Director
Scott Ross, Shasta County Fire Safety Inspector
Tracie Huff, Administrative Secretary I, Recording Secretary

Note: All unanimous actions reflect a 5-0 vote.

Key: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), Negative Declaration (ND), Categorically Exempt (CE), Other Exemption from CEQA (OE); Not Subject to CEQA (N/A).

OPEN TIME: No Speakers.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS: None.

CONSENT ITEMS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Ex-parte Communications Disclosures: None.

R1: ZONE AMENDMENT 17-005 (SHASTA COUNTY) TITLE 17 ZONING CODE TEXT AMENDMENTS: An ordinance adding Section 17.88.325 “Commerical Cannabis Activities” to the Shasta County Zoning Plan prohibiting commercial cannabis activity within the unincorporated territory of the County and repealing section 17.88.315 – Medical Cannabis Deliveries. Staff Planner Kim Hunter. District All. Proposed CEQA Determination: CE.

Senior Planner Lisa Lozier presented the staff report.

The public hearing was opened and speaking in favor of the project were

<u><i>Speaker's Name</i></u>	<u><i>Comments/Concerns/Questions</i></u>
Tom Bosenko, Shasta County Sheriff	Mr. Bosenko stated that he agreed with the nature of the project, felt that the changes were reasonable, consistent with what the County had already enacted, and encouraged a ‘yes’ vote.

Speaking in opposition to the project were:

<u><i>Speaker's Name</i></u>	<u><i>Comments/Concerns/Questions</i></u>
Rob McDonald	Mr. McDonald gave a brief history of studies done on cannabis and examples of how cannabis has helped cure a number of ailments and spoke about how important it is for human nutrition.
Stacy Lidee	Ms. Lidee asked the Commission to ask the Staff to make a place for Commercial cannabis and invited the Commission to come and observe what she does. Ms. Lidee also advised that commercial cannabis would enhance revenue and get people off of street drugs, address homelessness and unemployment, and opiate crisis. Ms. Lidee contended that if Commercial Cannabis was regulated rather than banned it would be a win/win for everyone.
John Carr	Presented the Commission with a copy of a marijuana magazine and spoke about the history of how cannabis became illegal and the medical benefits of cannabis. He also recommended a citizens advisory committee to study the issue.
Charles Brady	Mr. Brady stated that he felt it wasn't regulation but prohibition. He voiced concerns that the cannabis industry was only being judged by bad business practices and not the good ones. He also spoke about the possibility of revenue, the aiding of people who have ailments, and the possibility of battling street drugs with cannabis.

Janice Powell

Ms. Powell stated she was a City of Shasta Lake Council member and spoke about the direction that City of Shasta Lake has taken with commercial cannabis and how it has benefitted the city and encouraged Shasta County to reconsider. She gave personal examples of how cannabis has helped her family and read aloud and excerpt from an article in Time magazine.

Brook Gierman

Ms. Gierman spoke about how more people are turning to cannabis because the pharmaceutical options did not work for them and the banning of cannabis would hurt the people who need cannabis the most.

Mark Ingalls

Mr. Ingalls spoke about how cannabis has personally helped him and how he cannot take pharmaceuticals.

There being no other speakers the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Wallner clarified that the ban was for commercial activities not marijuana or medical marijuana, noted his appreciation for the speakers but took offense at some of the comments made during the public testimony. Commissioner Wallner pointed out that medical marijuana was voted in by the voters.

Commissioner Chapin stated his firm belief in the benefits of medical marijuana but pointed out that the majority of the voters didn't want marijuana grown and sold in their neighborhoods and this was what this project was about.

Commissioner Kerns stated that he appreciated the testimony and said that he personally knows people that can attest to the benefits of cannabis. He explained that there was also damaging effects and listed statistics to that effect. He also thanked the staff for all the hard work in bringing this project before the Commission.

Commissioner Chapin asked for clarification on the Board of Supervisors resolution of intent. Planning Division Manager, Kim Hunter addressed the question. Assistant County Council, James Ross further clarified the Resolution of Intent.

ACTION: By motion made, seconded (Wallner/Kerns), and carried unanimously by Resolution 2017-040, the Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors conduct a public hearing, find the Project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated in the resolution, and adopt an ordinance adding Section 17.88.325, "Commercial Cannabis Activity" and repealing Section 17.88.315, "Medical Marijuana Deliveries" of Chapter 17.88 Special Uses" of Title 17 "Zoning Plan of the Shasta County Code.

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

There were no items to be discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: The Planning Commission adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

Tracie Huff, Administrative Secretary I
Recording Secretary