

KITTITAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 25th, 2014

Teanaway Hall
Kittitas County Fairgrounds

- I. **Chairman Grant Clark** called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Those present: Leslie Walker, Gary Starkovich, Rob Fraser, Margaret Sullivan and Grant Clark

Those absent: Bob Hickey and Brandon Huber

Also present: Planning Official- Doc Hansen, Staff Planner- Jeff Watson, Staff Planner Lindsey Ozbolt, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Neil Caulkins, CDS permit technician/clerk- Stephanie Mifflin and approximately forty members of the public

- I. **Correspondence:** None.

II. **Minutes**

- a. Commission Member Leslie Walker stated that in section A should be 7-0 vote and section 3.1 and 3.2 should be 7-0 vote. Commission member Rob Fraser made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Commission member Gary Starkovich seconded the motion. **The motion passed with 5-0 vote.**

III. **New business:**

- a. Chairman Clark gave a brief summary on how the meeting will be conducted. Community Development Services has received over 60 comments and there will be no voting tonight. The public can submit written comments by Friday, February 28th at 5 pm.
- b. Staff Planner, Jeff Watson, read portions of the presentation and the staff report into the record. Mr. Watson read the staff recommendation into the record located in the staff report in section 2.1-2.8c.

c. Public Testimony

William Holmes, (205 W 5th) stated that marijuana in Colorado had negative increases such as traffic fatalities and emergency room visits.

Dan Wagner, (2608 Millstone) stated that the main concern is the allowance of these operations. He worked as an RN around addictions and most cases started with marijuana use and taxes will be beneficial to addiction places.

David Crain, (1201 N Vista) stated that marijuana affects not benefits, and merchants, and schools, families and farmers, nobody wants it. It is a gateway drug.

Connie Coleman, (281 Mission Rd) stated that she believes application is next to her property and read article relating to marijuana facilities being robbed, security systems are installed, impacts are severe and not effectively regulated.

Roger Weaver, (500 E Cherry Ln) stated that if this is a done deal the county needs to set control and if we want to do business we need to get paid.

Barbara Diefenbach, (820 Payne Rd) stated that nothing available to prevent cross contaminated into hay fields. Fences will not prevent the wind and carrying pollen.

Gary Deifenbach, (820 Payne Rd) stated he concurs with his wife. If this gets into Japan, hay operation will be shut down and the reputation in this valley will diminish if there is cross contamination.

Mike Graham, (5810 Naneum Rd) stated that agricultural practices are the most controlled in marijuana and cross contamination is not a concern.

Debra Greenspan, (5th Ave) stated hopes for grows in Kittitas. Concerns are for small growers and against 100 foot setback.

Mark O'Hoffman, (Seattle) stated that they have been doing this for alst six years. Odor control should be addressed in zoning and light augmentation so lights will be on.

Murray Savage, (557 N Parallel Rd) asked what the requirements for bathroom facilities for grow operation and encouraged it not be allowed in 3 acre areas.

Joyce Bloxham (3080 Rader Rd) stated that it will affect property values, septic tanks, well situation, road and power.

Chairman Grant Clark closed the public testimony but will accept written testimony by Friday, February 28th at 5 p.m.

Jeff Watson stated that it is not allowed in Chelan or Yakima County. Planning Official Doc Hansen stated that this is not a proposal by the Board of County Commissioners, it is only asked for recommendations from the Planning Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.