

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
MEDICAL CANNABIS TASK  
FORCE MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015  
241 CEDAR AVENUE  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
SOCIAL HALL, 6:00 PM**

Charlyn Bender, Chair, District 8  
Marc Greenberg, Vice Chair, District 5  
Larry Bott, Member, District 1  
Tony Rivera, Member, District 1  
Adam Hijazi, Member, District 2  
Jack Smith, Member, District 2  
Sarah Sangmeister, Member, District 3  
Denise Mester, Member, District 3  
Joe Sopo, Member, District 4



Jan Ward, Member, District 4  
Floyd Curry, Member, District 5  
Nick Morrow, Member, District 6  
Greg Lefian, Member, District 6  
Larry King, Member, District 7  
Aaron Herzberg, Member, District 7  
Tunua Thrash-Ntuk, Member, District 8  
Kasia McDermott, Member, District 9  
Aaron Blackburn, Member, District 9

---

**FINISHED AGENDA & DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER (6:12 PM)**

At 6:12 PM, Vice Chair Greenberg called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL (6:12 PM)**

**Members Present:** Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Ward, Morrow, Lefian, King, McDermott and Greenberg

**Members Absent:** Rivera, Curry, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, Blackburn and Bender

Also present: Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney; Kendra Carney, Deputy City Attorney; Mary McCormick, Facilitator; Carolyn Hill, City Clerk Specialist; Matthew Ceballos, City Clerk Specialist.

**REGULAR AGENDA (6:13 PM)**

1. [15-0554](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes for the Medical Cannabis Task Force meetings held Wednesday, May 27, 2015 and June 3, 2015.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Ward, to approve the minutes for the Medical Cannabis Task Force meeting held Wednesday, May 27, 2015. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 12 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Ward, Morrow, Lefian, King, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 6 - Rivera, Curry, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, Blackburn and Bender

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Ward, to approve the minutes for the Medical Cannabis Task Force meeting held Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 12 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Ward, Morrow, Lefian, King, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 6 - Rivera, Curry, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, Blackburn and Bender

SECOND ROLL CALL (6:19 PM)

**Members Present:** Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Members Absent:** Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

2. [15-0555](#) Recommendation to have a discussion regarding fiscal impact: staffing costs, taxation, audits; and implementation of the Ordinance: timeline to implement.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Task Force Members Curry and Herzberg joined the meeting.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Greenberg and Matthew Pappas.

Task Force Member Morrow spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Morrow and Matthew Pappas.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Greenberg and Matthew Pappas.

Task Force Member Lefian spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Lefian and Matthew Pappas.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Smith and Matthew Pappas.

Task Force Member Sangmeister spoke.

Matthew Pappas spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Sangmeister and Matthew Pappas.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Greenberg and John Gross, Director of Financial Management.

Task Force Member King spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member King and John Gross, Director of Financial Management.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member Sangmeister spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member Herzberg spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Herzberg and John Gross, Director of Financial Management.

Task Force Member Sangmeister spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member King spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member Morrow spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member King spoke.

John Gross, Director of Financial Management, spoke.

Task Force Member Thrash-Ntuk joined the meeting.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Greenberg and Sean Donahoe.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Smith and Sean Donahoe.

Task Force Member Herzberg spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Herzberg and Sean Donahoe.

Task Force Member King spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member King and Sean Donahoe.

Task Force Member Sopo spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Sopo and Sean Donahoe.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

Sean Donahoe spoke.

Nathan Whitaker spoke.

Task Force Member Ward left the meeting.

Diana Lejins spoke.

Sam Sabzehzar spoke.

Patrick Rohdy spoke.

David Zinc spoke.

Jason Alua spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chair Greenberg, to receive and file presentations. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

Gary Shelton spoke.

Diana Lejins spoke.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chair Greenberg, to add tentative recommendations to the ongoing list. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

3. [15-0556](#) Recommendation to receive and file a draft ordinance to establish immunity for and restrictions on Medical Cannabis Businesses, submitted by Task Force Member King.

Diana Lejins spoke.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Thrash-Ntuk, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

4. [15-0557](#) Recommendation to receive and file two (2) handouts, League of California Cities - Overview of Recent Developments Affecting

Medical Marijuana dated May 3, 2012; and Congressional Research Service - Marijuana: Medical and Retail - Selected Legal Issues dated April 8, 2015, submitted by Task Force Member Greenberg.

**A motion was made by Member Hijazi, seconded by Member Smith, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

**NEW BUSINESS (8:03 PM)**

5. [15-0558](#) Recommendation to discuss topics for the July 1 and July 15, 2015 meetings.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Greenberg, seconded by Member King, to add City Manager memo to the July 1, 2015 meeting to be received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

Diana Lejins spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Greenberg, seconded by Member Curry, to add the study, Journal of Global Drug Policy and Practice, to the July 1, 2015 meeting to be received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**



**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Task Force Member Lefian spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Smith and Task Force Member Hijazi.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Hijazi, to finalize tentative recommendations at next meeting of July 1, 2015. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

Task Force Member Sopo spoke.

Task Force Member Thrash-Ntuk spoke.

Diana Lejins spoke.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Hijazi, to add current tentative recommendations to ongoing list before approval process. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

6. [15-0559](#) Recommendation to discuss future Task Force meeting dates and topics.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Task Force Member Smith spoke.

Task Force Member Thrash-Ntuk spoke.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Task Force Member Thrash-Ntuk and Mary McCormick, Facilitator.

Jeff Abrams spoke.

**A motion was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Sopo, that the item be laid over to the next Medical Cannabis Task Force meeting of July 1,2015. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

7. [15-0560](#) Recommendation to discuss proposed speakers, if any, to invite to a future meeting of the Medical Cannabis Task Force.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Micheal Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Task Force Member Lefian spoke.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

Vice Chair Greenberg spoke.

Mary McCormick, Facilitator, spoke.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Greenberg, seconded by Member Smith, that a staff member from the City Manager's office be invited to the next meeting to discuss the Medical Cannabis memo. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 14 - Bott, Hijazi, Smith, Sangmeister, Mester, Sopo, Curry, Morrow, Lefian, King, Herzberg, Thrash-Ntuk, McDermott and Greenberg

**Absent:** 4 - Rivera, Ward, Blackburn and Bender

**PUBLIC COMMENT (8:23 PM)**

Anne Greenfield spoke.

Jeff Benson spoke.

Diana Lejins spoke.

**ADJOURNMENT (8:29 PM)**

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

Micheal Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Task Force Member Hijazi spoke.

At 8:29 PM, there being no objection, Task Force Member Greenberg moved, seconded by Task Force Member Sangmeister, that the meeting be adjourned. Carried by Unanimous vote.

mc