

Comins Township Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

June 8th, 2023

Comins Twsp Hall

Call To Order: 7:02 pm

Roll Call: John McConnell, Kyle Yoder, Daniel Swartzendruber [Chair], Jerry Kunnath [secr], Arisa Handrich [abs]

Approval Of Minutes: May. 11th 2023 – 1st Kyle Yoder, John McConnell 2nd – minutes approved as read

April 13th minutes [next month]

Welcomed Rob Murphy [twsp sup.] to meeting

Guests – Roman Benson [Cana Club Dispensary]

New business – Dispensary Discussion with Roman Benson

Mr. Benson spoke to the commission [and visitors/residents] of his plan to pursue the Commission to allow a new marijuana dispensary in Comins Twsp. He explained how their current dispensary located west of Mio, has been operating without a single visit/ call of the local police. Mr. Benson told of how low key and state regulated his business is; and how they strive to be an upstanding business addition to Comins Twsp.

Mr. Benson talked of how he would be open to our Board writing our own regulations by which his dispensary would operate; stating that he was completely open to working with the Planning Commission to reach a satisfactory plan for operation. He stated that he would be open to discussing hours of operation and the location of same with the Commission.

Dan addressed how public position on this topic was varied; in that a similar proposal was rejected by the citizens in a past referendum. Dan asked the board members for their opinions on the subject and the Board members seemed to be about 50/50 on the subject.

Members of the public were asked to express their opinion [there were 15 people in attendance – some not residents of the Twsp] and a number of them did so. It seemed as if those in attendance were also split about 50/50 on the topic.

The Board decided to hold another Public Comment meeting on August 10th to get more of a ‘feel’ of how our community feels about allowing a dispensary to be placed in Comins Twsp. Rob Murphy said he would make sure to advertise this meeting to the Township so that we can get a better feel as to whether the Board should pursue this further or to table it/reject it.

It was mentioned that a business can get petitions from the public [only 5% of registered voters needed to sign] and then write their own ordinance and get it on the ballot. This was discussed.

Public Comment : none

Old business none

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm

Jerry motioned for adjournment/John 2nd

Respectfully submitted by Jerry Kunnath, Comins Twsp Planning Comm. Secr