

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023
FIGUEROA PLAZA
BUILDING AND SAFETY BOARD ROOM, 9TH FLOOR
201 N. FIGUEROA ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

MINUTES OF THE CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN ACTION FORMAT. THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION RELATED TO EACH ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE IN AUDIO FORMAT ONLINE AT <https://cannabis.lacity.gov> TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: UNDER **ABOUT, CANNABIS REGULATION COMMISSION** SELECT **COMMISSION MEETINGS**, SCROLL DOWN TO LOCATE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT MEETING AUDIO.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. with Vice President Mason, Commissioners Figueroa-Villa, Farmby, and Lim in attendance. President Ahn joined the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

Also present were, Michelle Garakian, Interim Executive Director; Jason Killeen, Assistant Executive Director; Dr. Imani Brown, Social Equity Program Director; Rocky Wiles, Compliance and Enforcement Division Chief; Allison Towle, Deputy City Attorney; Josie Trevizo, Commission Executive Assistant; Irene Diaz, Sr. Administrative Clerk; and Uribe Lazo, Administrative Clerk.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT AND
SINGLE OR MULTIPLE AGENDA ITEM**

General Public Comment and Single or Multiple Agenda Items were taken together. A member of the public addressed the Commission telephonically.

ITEM NO. 1

COMMISSION BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers:**
Commissioner Farmby moved to nominate Commissioner Mason as Commission President. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Figueroa-Villa and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Farmby
Second: Figueroa-Villa
Ayes: Lim, Mason

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

- Commissioner Mason moved to nominate Commissioner Figueroa-Villa as Commission Vice President. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lim and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Mason

Second: Lim

Ayes: Farmby, Figueroa-Villa

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

- **Advanced Calendar:** Commissioner Lim stated that he will not be available on September 21, 2023 and October 5, 2023. Commissioner Figueroa-Villa stated that she will not be available on September 7, 2023.
- **Approval of Minutes:** President Mason continued the approval of the February 23, 2023 meeting minutes to the next Cannabis Regulation Commission meeting.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lim moved to approve the minutes of May 25, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Figueroa-Villa and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Lim

Second: Figueroa-Lim

Ayes: Mason

Abstentions: Farmby

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

- **Commission Announcements and Updates:** There were no Commission announcements.
- **Future Agenda Requests:** There were no future agenda requests from the Commission.

ITEM NO. 2

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Garakian, Interim Executive Director, reported on general Department updates regarding tax revenue and economic activity generated by commercial cannabis activity in the City of L.A., how DCR is preparing to meet Mayor Bass' ED 4 requirements, a brief update on the state's legislative activity related to SB 51, SB 512 and AB 1565, and an update on the Department's staff hiring.

President Mason took Item No.4 out of order.

ITEM NO. 4

REPORT FROM DCR ON THE LICENSING PROGRAM

Jason Killeen, Assistant Executive Director, reported on current and future licensing procedures, such as the current licensing data related to all pending application record types, number of all active commercial cannabis licenses issued, annual licensing application process including number of pending applications, completeness, and applications transmitted for approval, pending annual license application records and corresponding environmental reports, and recent ordinance amendments to Article 4, Chapter X of the Los Angeles Municipal Code in Council File no. [21-1083-S1](#) such as modifications, relocations, new record types, and application workflows.

ITEM NO. 3

REPORT FROM DCR ON THE SOCIAL EQUITY PROGRAM

Dr. Imani Brown, Social Equity Program Director, provided updates on the Cannabis Equity Grant for Local Jurisdiction, SEED Rental Assistance Grant funds allocated and disbursements to date, summary of the Business, Licensing, Compliance (BLC) Program

accomplishments and deliverables, purpose and participant requirements for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and an overview of the services provided and attendance at the Workforce Development-LA Cannabis Unite Networking Mixer on June 17, 2023.

ITEM NO. 5

REPORT FROM DCR ON THE COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Rocky Wiles, Compliance and Enforcement Division Chief, reported on program updates, including implementation of its progressive enforcement strategy and licensee compliance inspection program, progress on the issuance of Emblem Placards to retailers in partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and an overview of the Complaint Portal enhancements and year-to-date complaint data.

There being no further business before the Cannabis Regulation Commission, President Mason adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.



Thyeris Mason, Commission President
Cannabis Regulation Commission



Josie Trevizo, Commission Executive Assistant
Cannabis Regulation Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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**CANNABIS REGULATION
COMMISSION**