

NOPNA General Meeting - January 18th

Oasis Cafe

Board Attendees: Charles Dupigny, Jason Cauthen, Tim Hickey, Leela Gill

Non-board attendees: ~14. Weather: Drizzly.

President Intro: 2017 was good year, helped to fix the panhandle park. More to come in 2018.
Website update, logo update.

Board member intro.

Intro to David Dull (NERT); Samantha from Sup. London Breed's office

First speaker:

Nicole Elliot - Director of the Office of Cannabis.

Appointed position

Over 100 operators doing non-retail activity in cannabis supply chain, trying to pull them into the compliance umbrella. Office of Cannabis will be regulating authority.

Existing retailers may stay where they are, and new retailers may locate no closer than 600 feet from public school or existing retailer

Q&A

What's non-retail? Cultivation (indoors); manufacturing, making of edibles, distribution to the retailers.

What about banking difficulties...does that impact ability to tax/regulate? There are some banks who work with the business (esp in Colorado). Expect regulatory agencies to work with local credit unions; tax collectors have no problem handling cash. But concerns about on-premise cash at businesses and transporting cash around city. Creating a municipal bank may help to facilitate businesses.

Taxes? No local tax has been proposed...may land on November ballot - so could hit Jan 2019. No additional tax in addition to existing tax and normal SF sales tax.

How are we the same/different than rest of state? Prop 64 defined that state is a licensing authority that licenses jurisdictions who are open to cannabis business. San Francisco has decided to accept all activities (except outdoor cultivation?)

Do other cities do things that San Francisco may emulate? Looked at jurisdiction in Colorado, Oregon, etc for best practices. Tried to do a lot of "partner jurisdiction research" which is ongoing. Lots of jurisdiction around us aren't moving forward.

How do you communicate with other districts? Have had communications with sonoma, alameda and other (total 8) jurisdictions. But because it's new, there's not a lot of learnings. More conversations to be had as everyone learns

Have any equity permits been issued? No - not yet. Trying to move everyone into compliance first.

What is iimplications for sentence forgiveness? Prop 64 meant you get your record expunged for things made now legal. (If you were caught some weed before and arrested)

Cannibis content is available at <https://officeofcannabis.sfgov.org/>

Guest #2: Right to Council Campaign.

Jen Snyder from right to Counsel committee

Massive displacement crisis - cannot find another place to live, fraudulent evictions happen a lot. Landlords are lawyered up; tenants aren't. Even owner move-in evictions are often fraudulent.

Right to Counsel is giving tenants free legal counsel when facing eviction. They believe 70% of people who are on the street now were housed within the last 3 years.

Q: How has similar program helped homeless population in New York? **A:** So far not much data, but it may be preventing landlords from making fraudulent evictions. Not intended to prevent legal evictions.

Q: What percent of evictions are fraudulent? **A:** a study found almost half of owner-move-in evictions are fraudulent. Hard to know. But there is a massive affordability crisis to get in a new tenant to pay higher rents.

Q: What's the data to demonstrate effectiveness? **A:** They will look at data. But they have no data on how many fraudulent evictions are happening now....they'll look to see if overall evictions drop (regardless of legitimate or fraudulent).

Q: Why on the ballot? **A:** Board of Supes hasn't taken an action on this. More likely to stick if it happens at the Ballot

Q (Samantha from Breed office): Voices around the city have harmonized the message, and Breed is working with the committee to supplement existing services. Piece of legislation right now sponsored by Breed (and another) that will go through budget. Been working with dept of Housing and Community Devt. Could get it done either through ballot or legislation (sooner than June). **A:** People-powered. Poll they took showed 2:1 in favor. If Board of Supes do something similar - win/win.

Q: Does data exist from the tenants union -? **A:** Yes, partnered w/ TU t go to city hall. They are (finally) digitizing their paper files, and compiling data now. Anecdotally Tenants Union know people can't afford lawyers.

Health Saturdays - Car Free Saturday in GGP

Julia Raskin julia@sfbike.org - San Francisco Bike Coalition

Sundays are open in GGP (for ~50 years); Healthy Saturdays have been going for about a decade (tea-garden to transverse) from April-Sept. Rec and Park wants to make it a year-long event.

Gary McCoy is Rec and park Champion. Needs a vote from Board of Supervisors (hoping for next six months). Liveable City, WalkSF, California Outdoor Roller Skating, Parks Alliance, all sponsor

Q: Why to elongate it to a year? What's the goal? **A:** Get people out, healthy, etc.

Q: What other steps are you taking to publicize and promote? **A:** Advocating for support with organization, car-free day flyering, blogs, etc. Hoping Rec and Park will make website (but up to them).

President Intro:

Get lots of emails on issues.

One of the issues is Ford GoBikes. We have a game plan and getting feedback on Ford GoBikes. To figure out how many stations we need, where should we place them?

We understand housing is an important topic - esp. 400 Divisadero Devt. Involve the city, inform the public, do a survey.