

**CITY OF URBANA**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Monday, September 23, 2019**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 SOUTH VINE STREET, URBANA, IL 61801**

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The City Council Committee of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** Bill Brown, Dean Hazen, Shirese Hursey, Eric Jakobsson, Jared Miller, Maryalice Wu, Charles A. Smyth, Diane Wolfe Marlin

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** None

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Charles A. Smyth, City Clerk

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kevin Garcia, Wendy Hundley, Charles Lauss, Carol Mitten, Lorrie Pearson, James Simon

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Elderess Melinda Carr, Robert Michael Doyle, Roland Kim, Darlene Kloepfel, Rev. Dr. Evelyn B. Underwood, Members of the Media

1. [Call to Order and Roll Call](#)

There being a quorum, Chair Maryalice Wu called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:02pm.

2. [Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting](#)

CM Jared Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 26, 2019. CM Eric Jakobsson seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. **Additions to the Agenda**

None

4. **Presentations**

a. Mayor Marlin and Champaign County Executive Darlene Kloepfel read a proclamation announcing LGBTQ+ Pride Week September 23-29, 2019 in the county of Champaign, City of Urbana, and City of Champaign. Robert Michael Doyle accepted the proclamation. Mayor Marlin acknowledged Mr. Doyle's leadership role in advocating for the rights of everyone in the community.

b. [Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for Non-Medical Cannabis](#)

Chair Maryalice Wu stated that this item is still in Plan Commission, and the presentation is informational, technical questions, and not up for discussion.

Planner II Kevin Garcia presented this item. He started his presentation by saying that non-medical cannabis will become legal in the state of Illinois as of January 1, 2020. On September 3, the City Council passed a three percent Municipal Cannabis Retailers' Occupation Tax. He then gave a summary of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, and the many concerns addressed by Plan Commission.

→ The State defined six types of cannabis businesses: craft growers, cultivation center, dispensary, infuser, processor, and transporter.

→ The Zoning Administrator proposed a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to add definitions and establish use provisions for non-medical, adult use cannabis businesses.

→ The proposed amendment will modify Articles II and V of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance to define and allow cannabis businesses in limited districts.

After the presentation, Mr. Garcia addressed the committee's concerns about:

- Difference between industrial/agriculture cultivation
- Special/conditional/outright uses permit
- Indoor/outdoor growing regulations
- Payment methods

City Attorney James Simon addressed some of the questions about the set up of a Cannabis Dispensary and the sales process.

Mayor Marlin added that the State would have a trailer bill later to clarify some of the ambiguous language.

c. [Sister Cities Update](#)

CM Roberts gave a PowerPoint presentation about his recent trip to Zomba, Malawi. His presentation addressed the status of past and current projects. The focus of the trip to Malawi was to bring educational support to public schools. Friends Bob and Sharon Breen of Lisle, IL accompanied him. They own a Montessori School in Naperville, Illinois. The Breen's Montessori school family collected five 50 pound totes of school supplies and made greeting cards for the Malawi students with the hope of getting one back. They delivered the school supplies and greeting cards to three different elementary schools and a college for widowed and divorced women. They also visited with old friends from Zomba, city officials, staff, and the newly elected mayor. The journey ended with a trip to Liwonde National Wild Life Park and a boat ride on Lake Malawi.

CM Roberts announced the next Urbana Sister Cities Program trip to Thionville, France, from November 15-18, 2019 is an invitation to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of their city from Nazi occupation. He also attended the annual Illinois Sister Cities Association 2019 Awards that took place on September 21, 2019, in Chicago, where he presented the award to the 2019 Sister City of the Year and 2019 Champion of Youth Award.

5. [Public Input](#)

Rev. Dr. Evelyn B. Underwood did not wish to speak, but asked that her position be entered into the record regarding the Dr. Ellis Subdivision sewer issues.

Elderess Melinda Carr did not wish to speak but asked that her continued concerns about Dr. Ellis subdivision sewer issues, equity, and historic impact be entered into the record.

Roland Kim addressed the committee to introduce himself as the new University of Illinois Student Government (ISG) liaison.

6. **Staff Report**

There was none

7. **Adjournment**

With no further business before the committee, Chair Wu adjourned the meeting at 8:31pm.

*Wendy M. Hundley*  
Deputy City Clerk

Meeting materials and video can be found [HERE](#)

Minutes Approved: October 14, 2019