OBJECTIONS

From: Hansens
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Subject: Fwd: Dandelion, LLC marijuana sales application in Haines
Date: Monday, April 12, 2021 7:22:04 PM

Jacqlene -

Yes - I would like my comment to be an Objection under 3 AAC 306.065.

Below is the message I sent to both Jordan Badger and also Alekka Fullerton, interim Borough Manager.

Scott

-------- Original Message --------

Subject: Fwd: Dandelion, LLC marijuana sales application in Haines
Date: 2021-04-10 12:02
From: Hansens <svhansen@aptalaska.net>
To: badgerjordan@ymail.com, afullerton@haines.ak.us

The Alaska Marijuana Control Office requested that I send not just a comment to them regarding a recent application for local retail Marijuana sales, but also to our local government, and also the applicant. Our comment to the marijuana application, in its entirety, is below.

I also thank you for considering my thoughts.

Scott Hansen

-------- Original Message --------

Subject: Dandelion, LLC marijuana sales application in Haines
Date: 2021-04-10 11:58
From: Hansens <svhansen@aptalaska.net>
To: marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov

Dear Marijuana Control office -

I want to express objection to mariajuana sales within Haines. I have no personal problem with the applicant but I watch the devastating effects of marijuana on the innocent and am compelled to respond. I realize that local ordinances are accepting and allow for the state to be the main regulation entity, and I also realize that our ordinances do not disallow the use. However, that does not mean that the community is in favor of the effects of marijuana. It is similar to alcohol, legal, but with widespread and deadly effects. Even in the 80s when I was in school, there were huge numbers of tragic deaths due to the abuse of

alcohol. The wise didn't misuse alcohol, very often. It was the young who were most damaged, and it is for them I communicate with you.

I'll lay aside statistics and instead rely on experience with several of our now-grown children. I object to the sale of marijuana within the community because it limits the ability of a developing young person to take on the pressures necessary for proper development. Marijuana is a feel-good escape. Escape takes us away from the problems that never go away until we deal conclusively with them. Escape once, and it's easier the next time. If we nurture an escapist culture, children do not grow up expecting to face normal realities that every healthy person works through with love and acceptance. Marijuana is dulling. Please don't be so permissive as to pass on dull minds, and the associated problems with dull-mindedness, to the future. We desperately need sharp, engaged adults, but marijuana takes this sharpness away.

Our oldest now-grown children were our secret link into youth culture for us parents for the last ten years or so. We were told things that the police couldn't use because there was no proof. Our children lamented the personal and family problems, connected to marijuana, they had to watch as the years went by. We were able to hear from them the effects on their friends - disconnected relationships, laziness, poor choices, avoidance of conflict, lower grades in school - connected to marijuana and other substances available to be abused. We can also see how innocent those dabblings into marijuana began. We see the tragic results. Other drugs follow marijuana - who can legitimately say otherwise? Let's not shield our eyes. Even one case of abuse should be troublesome to a regulator. Why cannot we regulate to protect the innocent, rather than caving to political pressure from existing users? The innocent are at stake. It is an injustice to encourage a foolish, escapist mentality that leads children to marijuana. Our chidren deserve better than this. When we allow the proliferation of marijuana in the community, it is foolish and thoughtless to conclude that just because children don't buy it that they don't find a way to get it. Who can legitimately say otherwise? Where are the answers to the problems that our older children's friends introduced into their lives back in the days when they played around with marijuana? It was illegal then, but they found it. How much easier to embrace those lifelong problems if that industry is encouraged in Haines. I know that the history of substance abuse regulation scoffs at limiting bad things, as if everyone has the wisdom to choose wisely, or perhaps that we should expose ourselves to life's toxins to get it over early. I don't see any good fruit from this thinking. I have seen only destruction and the need for miraculous repairs to recover from the inevitable damage.

Please reject this application, not for the sake of protecting or limiting consenting adults, those of us who are willing to be as stupid as we can possibly tolerate. Please reject this application for the sake of the innocent who cannot see into the future, where dependency and the strong ramifications of intentional dullness wait to take their "pound of flesh" from their lives, and eventually, ours, through mental health problem counseling, domestic violence, and the results of foolish social and financial decisions on our society. We still have eight children at home and want to do our best to comment with realities revealed to us through our grieving now-grown children, who still love their friends but are so separated by their poor choices that they are no longer able to share the pleasant treasures of life in the same way, for that sharpness of life is gone.

Thank you for your consideration.

Scott and Valina Hansen