



Hamilton

Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

REPORT 18-002

Monday, February 26, 2018

7:00 p.m.

**Ancaster Fairgrounds, Rooms A & B
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster**

Present:	Councillors L. Ferguson, B. Johnson, J. Partridge and R. Pasuta A. Spoelstra (Chair), D. Smith (Vice Chair), W. Galloway, C. McMaster, J. Medeiros, N. Mills, A. Sinclair, K. Smith, G. Smuk and M. Switzer
Also Present:	Councillor A. VanderBeek
Absent	
With Regrets:	P. Krakar, J. Mantel, R. Shuker
Absent:	R. Saccomano

**THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS
REPORT 18-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

1. Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry and the City's Zoning Regulation (Items 6.1 and 6.2)

WHEREAS, licensed cannabis production, for medical and/or recreational-use purposes, should be considered a farming activity similar to those operating in green house structures,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to remove the restriction of a 2000 square meter maximum building size and apply appropriate set back requirements to new cannabis production facilities in order to limit the impact on current land uses in rural Hamilton.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)

The agenda for the February 26, 2018 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee was approved, as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

Andrea Sinclair declared a conflict of interest on Items 6.1 and 6.2 respecting the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry and the City's Zoning Regulation as she is employed by Niagara College and her department is involved with a program concerning the cannabis industry.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

(i) September 25, 2017 (Item 3.1)

The minutes of the September 25, 2017 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee were approved, as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 5)

Upon the conclusion of the matter respecting the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry (Items 6.1 and 6.2) any individuals in attendance wishing to speak to the matter are to be approved as delegations.

The Committee Clerk was directed to create a sign-up sheet for individuals to list their name if they wished to speak.

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Meeting Notes from the January 29, 2018 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (Item 5.1)

The meeting notes from the January 29, 2018 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee were approved, as presented.

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) The Green Organic Dutchman Holdings Limited respecting the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry and the City's Zoning regulation (referred to the Committee by the Planning Committee on October 31, 2017) (Item 6.1)

(ii) Beleave Inc. respecting the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry and the City's Zoning regulation (referred to the Committee by the Planning Committee on October 31, 2017) (Item 6.2)

Representatives from The Green Organic Dutchman and Beleave addressed the Committee about the issue of the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry.

Mary-Lynne Howell and Ian Wilms with The Green Organic Dutchman and Gordon Harvey and Bill Panagiotakopoulos with Beleave, provided the Committee with an overview of their companies, their operations and the medical cannabis industry.

They were joined in the presentation by representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

The Committee Clerk advised that no individuals registered to speak. The floor was then opened up to delegations.

Various individuals addressed the Committee and asked questions of the Committee and the presenters. Concerns expressed included, but were not limited to:

- The effect of lighting from the facility
- Truck traffic for bringing water to the facility
- Security
- Noise
- Odour
- Health concerns for cannabis users
- Impact on property value in the area

The delegations respecting the issue of the Legal, Medical Cannabis Industry and the City's Zoning Regulation, were received.

The Committee recessed from 8:19 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

That staff be directed to retain the restriction of a 2000 square meter maximum building size and apply appropriate set back requirements to new cannabis production facilities in order to limit the impact on current land uses in rural Hamilton.

The above motion was DEFEATED.

WHEREAS, licensed cannabis production, for medical and/or recreational-use purposes, should be considered a farming activity similar to those operating in green house structures,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to remove the restriction of a 2000 square meter maximum building size and apply appropriate set back requirements to new cannabis production facilities in order to limit the impact on current land uses in rural Hamilton.

The above motion **CARRIED** on the following standing recorded vote:

YEAS:	B. Johnson, Partridge, Pasuta, Galloway, Mills, Medeiros, Smuk, Spoelstra, Switzer
Total:	9
NAYS:	Ferguson, McMaster, D. Smith, K. Smith
Total:	4
ABSENT:	Krakar, Mantel, Saccomano, Shuker
Total:	4

Committee member Sinclair declared an interest respecting the above Items and therefore did not participate in the debate or vote.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Correspondence from R. J. Simpson, Chief Fire Prevention Officer, Hamilton Fire Department, respecting Burn Permits (Item 8.1)

The Correspondence from R. J. Simpson, Chief Fire Prevention Officer, Hamilton Fire Department, respecting Burn Permits, was received.

(ii) Correspondence from Nancy Michie, Administrator Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, requesting support for the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry's Council resolution respecting Tenanted Farm Tax properties being changed to the Residential Tax Class (referred to the Committee at the November 8, 2017 meeting of Council) (Item 8.2)

The Correspondence from R. J. Simpson, Chief Fire Prevention Officer, Hamilton Fire Department, respecting Burn Permits, was received.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

- (i) Joel Porter, Farm and Food Care Organization, respecting plans for their annual Breakfast on the Farm Event taking place on June 23rd at Cranston Farms (Item 11.1)**

The Chair advised that the sponsorship request from the Farm and Food Care Organization for the Breakfast on the Farm Event in the amount of \$5000 has been approved and it is being funded by the Planning and Economic Development Department. Therefore a motion from the Committee is not required.

(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)

The meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Spoelstra, Chair
Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Advisory Committee

Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk