



Minutes

Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #13: Monday, October 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Deschutes Services Building, Allen Room, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend

This meeting was conducted in person and by video. It was video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website www.deschutes.org/meetings .

I. Introductions / Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 5:59 p.m. by Cannabis Advisory Panel (CAP) Chair Liz Lotochinski. Present in person: Jen Patterson, Deschutes County Strategic Initiatives Manager; Jess Neuwirth, Supervisor, Deschutes County Public Health and Prevention; Liz Lotochinski; Mary Fleischmann; Jeremy Giffin, Oregon Water Resources Department, Watermaster; Caroyn Sufit, Oregon Water Resources Department, Region Manager; Gary Bracelin; Hunter Neubauer; Andrew Aasen; Detective Dustin Miller, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; Detective Tony Ramos, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; Present on Zoom: Anne Linton, MD, Psychiatrist Deschutes County Behavioral Health

II. Approval of July 22, 2024, Minutes

Mary Fleischman moved to approve the minutes. Hunter Neubauer seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. Presentation from Health Services on Substance Abuse Trends in Deschutes County

Jess Neuwirth shared a presentation on Cannabis use trends in the US and Deschutes County, the presentation can be located in the October 28, 2024, meeting packet. The methodology used to analyze trends changed during COVID as the data used to be collected in person.

In-school surveys indicate that Oregon youth use cannabis at a higher rate than the US average although Jess cautioned on varying interpretations of this data. 58.8% of Deschutes County 11th graders have NEVER tried cannabis but they are more likely than their peers in Oregon to use cannabis. The pronounced difference increases as youth get older. Additionally, Deschutes County 11th graders are more likely than their peers in Oregon to use any substance including binge drinking, tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis.

Only 40% of 11th graders perceived a risk of harm if they used cannabis regularly. Of those that have tried cannabis, 9.6% tried it before age 13. 71% of 11th graders perceived a risk of harm if they ever used vapes.

Public Health is continuing their education campaign as well as a seven strategy approach for community level engagement. The Public Health education campaign had a very successful rate of outreach to targeted audience members; between March and September 2024, 8,972

households have been reached, of which 63% were priority audiences, and, on average, each audience member had 11 ad views with a 90% video completion rate. The purpose of the campaign is to direct audience to more resources and the data is showing that is happening; 5,455 visits to the website were registered of which 4,691 came directly from the PSAs.

Liz Lotochinski requested to see the in-school survey that is given to Deschutes County youth; Jen Patterson will email both presentations and other reference materials to the CAP within the week.

Anne Linton shared a presentation on Cannabis use and mental health including emerging medical information, the presentation can be located in the October 28, 2024, meeting packet. The County's medical use system makes it very difficult to track cannabis use; Anne surveyed relevant Behavioral Health staff to include anecdotal information in her presentation.

VI. Public Comments

No public comments

VII. Next Steps

Next meeting topics will include a mid-year update from departments who received cannabis tax revenue funds and budget requests and presentations from departments seeking FY '26 cannabis tax revenue funds. The next meeting will take place January 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Allen Room.

VIII. Wrap up and Adjourn

Chair Liz Lotochinski adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager,
Deschutes County Administrative Services