SUPPLEMENTAL RULE FOR CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS DATED JUNE 26, 2020 GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The following Supplemental Rule for Cannabis Business Establishments is issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Chicago (the “Board” and the “City”) in accordance with the Board’s supplemental rule-making powers set forth in its Rules of Procedure (eff. June 26, 2020).

Capitalized terms not defined in this Cannabis Business Establishment Rule shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Board’s Rules of Procedure.

CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Section 17-13-0905-G of the Zoning Ordinance requires that an applicant hold at least one community meeting in the ward in which the cannabis business establishment (as such term is defined in the Zoning Ordinance) is proposed to be located no later than two weeks prior to the date that the special use application for such cannabis business establishment is to be heard by the Board. The purpose of the meeting is to explain the proposed cannabis business establishment and solicit comments on it. This is a requirement of the Municipal Code of the City (“Municipal Code”) and cannot be waived. Note that as Section 17-13-0905-G of the Zoning Ordinance requires that an applicant hold the community meeting, a community meeting cannot be held unless and until there is a special use application for the cannabis business establishment in question on file with the Board.

No later than two weeks prior to this community meeting, the applicant must send written notice of the time, place and purpose of the community meeting to:

1) the Chairman; and

2) the ward alderman;

At least two weeks prior to this meeting, the applicant must also:

3) Send written notice by USPS first class mail of the time, place and purpose of the meeting to the property owners (as such term is defined by the Zoning Ordinance) of the property on which the cannabis business establishment is proposed to be located (the “subject property”) and all property owners (again, as such term is defined in the Zoning Ordinance) within 250 of the property lines of the subject property; and

4) Publish notice of the time, place and purpose of the community meeting in a newspaper of general circulation within the ward.
Again, these are requirements of the Municipal Code and cannot be waived. Failure to provide any of the above written or published notice or proof of the above written or published notice (as applicable) to the Board in the manner and time frame required under Section 17-13-0905-G will result in the community meeting not counting for purposes of Section 17-13-0905-G.

However, due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-10 issued by the Governor of the State of Illinois (“Governor”) on March 20, 2020 limited, in accordance with guidelines recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), public gatherings – such as community meetings – to no more than 10 people. Although the Governor declined to re-issue Executive Order 2020-10, State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-38 issued by the Governor on May 29, 2020, continues to limit, in accordance with CDC guidelines, public gatherings to no more than 10 people. Though the Governor has issued or will issue an executive order that will allow public gatherings of up to 50 people, the Board understands that many members of the public are still concerned about the safety of public gatherings. Because of this, and to ensure that both the spirit and the letter of Section 17-13-0905-G are carried out, for community meetings held on or after March 20, 2020, the Board is also requiring:

1) That the community meeting be comprised of at least three (3) physical sessions so that the maximum amount of persons that wish to physically attend the community meeting may have the opportunity; and

2) That each session has a virtual component so that those who wish to attend and participate but do not want to physically attend can virtually attend and participate.

Information regarding the time and place of all physical sessions must be included in any notice required under Section 17-13-0905-G. Information regarding how to access and participate in the virtual component of each physical session must also be included in any notice required under Section 17-13-0905-G. In addition, as part of the applicant’s proposed Findings of Fact, the applicant shall include information as to how many people physically participated in each session of the community meeting and how many people virtually participated in each session of the community meeting.

The Chairman shall have the power to amend or modify this Supplemental Rule for Cannabis Business Establishments in accordance with further directives for public gatherings issued by the State of Illinois and/or the City.
The above “SUPPLEMENTAL RULE FOR CANNABIS BUSINESS
ESTABLISHMENTS DATED JUNE 26, 2020 GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF
CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS” is hereby
issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

[Signature]

Farzin Parang, Chairman

Sam Toia, Vice Chairman

[Signature]

Jolene Saul, Commissioner

Timothy Knudsen, Alternate Commissioner
The above "SUPPLEMENTAL RULE FOR CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS DATED JUNE 26, 2020 GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS" is hereby issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Farzin Parang, Chairman

Sam Toia, Vice Chairman

Jolene Saul, Commissioner

Timothy Knudsen, Alternate Commissioner
The above “SUPPLEMENTAL RULE FOR CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS DATED JUNE 26, 2020 GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS” is hereby issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Farzin Parang, Chairman

Sam Toia, Vice Chairman

Jolene Saul, Commissioner

Timothy Knudsen, Alternate Commissioner
The above “SUPPLEMENTAL RULE FOR CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS DATED JUNE 26, 2020 GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF CANNABIS BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS” is hereby issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Farzin Parang, Chairman

Sam Toia, Vice Chairman

Jolene Saul, Commissioner

Timothy Knudsen, Alternate Commissioner