

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
There was no quorum at the May monthly Board meeting; the meeting was adjourned at 4:15.
Northern California Smart Approaches to Marijuana Presentation Notes
Wednesday, May 14, 2016
Board of Supervisors Chambers
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Members Present: Antwon Cloird, Hayden Padgett, Catherine Taughinbaugh, Jerry Lasky, Tom Aswad, Elizabeth Sutherland M.D.

Members Absent: Katherine Webster (R), Guita Bahramipour (U), Brianna Robinson (E), James Ryan (U), Jill Chioino (U), Robin Houdashell (E), Shirley Cheney (R)

Staff Present: Fatima Matal Sol, AOD Program Chief, Isabelle Kirske, AOD Prevention Coordinator

Member Liaisons: Sam Yoshioka - Mental Health Commission

TOPIC	ISSUE/CONCLUSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	The meeting was not called to order at 4:15 pm	MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:15 PM.
II. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	And quorum was not met.	

Marijuana Lecture Series Presents:
The Impact Legalization of
Marijuana Would Have on the
Community.

Presented By: Don Bessee, Executive Director of Northern California Project SAM.

Don Bessee, Executive Director of Northern California SAM gave a presentation to members of the public regarding the "Impact that Legalization of Marijuana would have on the community." Some highlights from this presentation are as follows:

- Project Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) was founded a few years ago by Dr. Kevin Sabet from the office of Drug Control Policy and Congressman Patrick Kennedy. The goal of SAM is to educate the public about the scientific effects of marijuana.
- AB 266 is legislation that was signed into effect in October 2015 and every city is currently dealing with the effects. It allows counties and cities to make a decision about the cultivation and delivery of Medical Marijuana. It also requires that patients receive their Medical Marijuana card from their primary care physician.
- The assumption was that the cities and counties would embrace commercial Medical Marijuana and outdoor grow. However, 50% of counties in California have rejected outdoor and commercial grow. California State Association of Counties reported that 50% have not made a decision and that 25% of the counties who have not officially made a decision will plan to restrict outdoor grow and commercial activities.
- In Colorado only one quarter of the state has recreational marijuana set in place.
- In Denver, where the majority of the recreational marijuana dispensaries are, the 8th grade use rate is three times the national average.
- The tax revenue only represents .07% of the

entire states' budget. The legislators in Colorado are concerned with this figure because people did not migrate from Medicinal Marijuana to Recreational Marijuana like it was originally thought.

- California plans to tax and regulate marijuana like Alcohol and Tobacco. If you look at reports of tax revenue on Alcohol and Tobacco we see that for every \$1 that we get in taxes, \$10 goes towards society and public health costs.
- More research is currently being done on the effects of Polydrug Use which is where people will use Marijuana with another substance. This type of drug use is showing to be common with marijuana.
- The Blue Ribbon Commission just released a report that came to the conclusion that California should not expect additional money to the general fund because the cost to society will be higher.
- In the last 2 years there has been an explosion of Butane Hash Oil (BHO) production. Because of the massive production in California they created a process to extract the part of the Marijuana that was discarded and processed into Wax which is a higher concentrated form of Marijuana. The process of making Wax is highly dangerous and highly explosive. In Sacramento, the Burn Centers have 10% of their beds filled with BHO burn patients.
- A Task Force has been created by Senator Feinstein to review and examine policy, child protective and fire reports because codes for Butane Hash Oil explosions were never used.
- Currently, one of the big issues with Marijuana for medical purposes is the diversion of products meant for the critically ill.
- The speculation by some people is that if we regulate Marijuana the cartels will go away. What we are seeing with this is that the Mexican Crime Syndicates have stopped growing Marijuana and started to grow Poppy.
- Two final thoughts and recommendations were:
 - When thinking about a future model consider how big your population of critically ill people is. By critically ill he was referring to the people who would require access to Medical Marijuana. How do your views compare with the surrounding counties? We learned that 215 was developed for sick people and not diversion to youth which is what happened.
 - We do not need delivery services and pot shops because that just increases youth access to these products.