

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting of April 21, 2025

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees held a public hearing on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Coventry Township Community Center, 335 East Willowview Drive, Akron, OH 44319, to consider a text amendment to the Zoning Resolution.

Call to Order:

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Administrator Anna Davis to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes, and Jeff Houck, yes. All Trustees were recorded as present.

Also, in attendance were Zoning Inspector Rob Henwood and applicant Greg Gorospe, who attended via phone (but was advised he could not participate since he was not physically present).

Greg Gorospe, Ice Miller LLP, 250 West Street, Columbus, OH 43215:

Edward Diebold announced that the applicant requests the following zoning text amendments:

Section 1. The following shall be added to ARTICLE 1.00 DEFINITIONS:

MARIJUANA DISPENSARY: A facility operated by an entity with a license to operate a dispensary under Chapter 3796 of the Revised Code regulating Medical Marijuana and/or Chapter 3780 of the Administrative Code regulating Adult Use Marijuana.

Section 2. SECTION 12.01(B)2 regulating conditional uses in the B3 District shall be amended as follows:

2. ~~Medical~~-Marijuana Dispensary per Section 23.21

Section 3. SECTION 23.21, providing standards for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 23.21 ~~MEDICAL~~ MARIJUANA DISPENSARY

Must comply with General Requirements of Conditional Zoning Certificates per 3.06 and the following:

- A. As defined and licensed by the State of Ohio per Chapter 3796 **or Chapter 3780** of the Ohio Revised Code.
- B. The local Policing Authority, Fire Department, and Building Department have approved opening.
- C. By authority of Section 3796.29 of the Ohio Revised Code, **regulating Medical Marijuana, and/or 3780.25, regulating Adult Use Marijuana,** limited the number of ~~Medical~~-Marijuana Dispensaries within Coventry Township to no more than one (1).

George Beckham asked Rob Henwood what Summit County Planning and Coventry Zoning recommended. Rob Henwood explained that S.C. Planning recommended approval, and the Zoning Commission voted in favor unanimously. George Beckham explained that he had asked Rob to print out the voting records from when medical marijuana was on the ballot for the State of Ohio. In Ohio, it passed 60-40%, and in Coventry, it passed in all seven precincts. There has been zero interest in this from the public. Jeff Houck commented that the public seemed to be in favor and asked if there was a location. George Beckham stated this is just for the text change, so we don't know, but potentially. This does limit the number to no more than 1 in the Township. It just removes the word "medical."

Michael Petrie – 158 Polonia Avenue, asked about tax revenue and if this will benefit the Township. George Beckham and Jeff Houck explained that the establishment's location within the Township will depend on it. If it's in the JEDD, we will gain income tax. And the State is still working on regulations, so we'll see what those are and if they will benefit us. Chances are, they won't trickle down this far.

250421-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the changes as requested to Article 1.00, Definitions, Section 12.01(B)(2) – B-3 Conditional Uses, and Section 23.21 Medical Marijuana Dispensary. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes, and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.


Greg Gorospe thanked the Board for their consideration.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

George Beckham made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes, and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer