

From: Jim Blakley [mailto:Jim.Blakley@comcast.net]
To: srosene@co.grand.co.us
Sent: Tue, 05 Apr 2016 12:09:38 -0700
Subject: Pending Retail Marijuana Store Application for 10863 US Highway 34-MMK Limited

Ms. Sara Rosene,

I wanted to provide a personal statement (see attached document) about the pending decision by the county to grant the establishment of a Marijuana retail establishment at 10863 US Highway 34. While I will not be able to attend the meeting in person I felt it important to voice my opinion on the matter. I'm up at Soda Springs Ranch nearly every weekend from Thursday night to Sunday supporting business activities.

Thanks for your support.

Cordially,
Jim Blakley

Sara Rosene
Grand County Clerk and Recorder
Grand County Board of Commissioners
Grand County, Colorado

RE: Pending Retail Marijuana Store Application for 10863 US Highway 34-MMK Limited

My name is James (Jim) Blakley. I am the managing partner of Blakley Investments, LLC. Blakley Investments, LLC is an equal partner with Jean Claude Cavalera in the ownership of Chanterelle, LLC. Chanterelle, LLC owns the restaurant/realty office building located at 9921 US Highway 34, #20, Grand Lake, Colorado 80447. The area is commonly known as Soda Springs Ranch and the restaurant business is owned and operated by my business partner Jean Claude Cavalera under the name Stillwater Grill. Blakley Investments, LLC also owns 3 condos at Soda Springs Ranch. I currently serve as President of Soda Springs Ranch Condo Association, Filing II. The statements I will make below are being presented as the managing partner of a family that owns a fair amount of property in the vicinity of the proposed marijuana retail location. Our family has been involved in the area for many years going back to my father who worked as a teenager in the Fraser hay meadows in the late 1930s and my grandfather regularly visited the Hot Sulphur Springs area to relax in the mineral pools back in the early 1920s. Please be aware that in no way are my statements intended to reflect the position of the Soda Springs Ranch Condo Association, its board or individual owners.

I had a chance to meet one of the owners of MMK Limited and to discuss his proposal for the marijuana retail operation. It's clear that MMK Limited is interest in promoting the sale of marijuana legally under the state requirements. It is also clear that they intend to go farther than required to be good business members of the community and to give back to the community. Let's be clear, marijuana vs liquor retail establishments both serve a social/society desire and are legal enterprises in our state. Some may choose to drink while others choose to smoke or enjoy an edible treat. In times like we have now in Grand County where major needs exist to increase the business tax base they clearly would be a plus for the area. With the recent reductions of tax coming from Henderson Mill there is an immediate need for new businesses to help fill the losses.

I discussed the proposed location with MMK Limited as well as Scott Turan, owner of the property. The proposed location is above the highway on a hill and set back visually. Currently you would not know there is an existing yoga studio unless you were very observant. It is on commercial property and buffered by 5 acres as part of the property. MMK owner discussed such things as signage and their commitment to not making it obtrusive to those traveling on Highway 34. I also asked if they had plans to look at working with the community and CDOT to address traffic lane improvements for the highway adjacent to the location. I believe when it was said "They plan to be good neighbors and do all they can to make their business safe for everyone (including motorists)". Their commitment to provide a portion of their income to local causes is truly taking a leadership position within the community as well.

I am in support of allowing this business to do business in the proposed location.

Cordially,

James Blakley
Managing Partner
Chanterelle, LLC

Blakley Investments, LLC