



Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: June 9, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.

Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal Street, 12th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts

Present: Commissioner Gayle Cameron
Commissioner Lloyd Macdonald
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga

Absent: Chairman Stephen P. Crosby

**Time entries are linked to
corresponding section in
Commission meeting video**

Call to Order

See transcript page 2

[10:01 a.m.](#) Commissioner Zuniga called to order the 193rd Commission meeting. He noted that Chairman Crosby is at a conference in Las Vegas.

Approval of Minutes

See transcript pages 2-3

[10:01 a.m.](#) *Commissioner Macdonald moved for the approval of the May 10, 2016, May 12, 2016, and May 26, 2016, Commission meeting minutes subject to any corrections, typographical errors, or other nonmaterial matters. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cameron. Motion amended to include when Commissioner Stebbins entered the meeting on May 26, 2016. Motion passed unanimously.*

Administrative Update

See transcript pages 3-9

[10:03 a.m.](#) Executive Director Edward Bedrosian, Jr. reported on the launch of Play My Way, a responsible gaming budgeting tool, at Plainridge Park Casino. He also reported that some MGC employees participated in a seven-month training program with the Massachusetts Aspiring Supervisors Program. He noted that the following

employees will receive a certificate of completion in the respective tracks: Aspiring Supervisor Track – Michelle Arango and Marianne Bratton-Davies; Manager Roundtable Track – Dan MacDonald, Maria Bottari, and Dean Ventola; and Program Manager Track – Agnes Beaulieu. He stated that he will present the certificates to the staff this afternoon.

Finance Division

See transcript pages 9-48

[10:10 a.m.](#) CFAO Derek Lennon presented on the FY17 initial budget recommendations which included the following: licensee assessment, Race Horse Development Fund projections, Office of the Attorney General costs, ten percent indirect cost, and comparison chart of FY16 to FY17. He also explained the headings that did not print out on the memo. CFAO Lennon also provided highlights of the following: payroll, fringe benefit costs, workers compensation, consulting costs, grant operations, overview of process which included meetings with department directors and licensees, gaming control appropriations, and racing division staffing and revenues.

Commissioner Zuniga raised the matter of the increase in the workforce development line item. Commissioner Stebbins noted that the Category 1 licensees are two years from opening and this is the time for making sure that workforce development strategies are in place.

CFAO Lennon noted that the budget will be posted for public comment.

Legal Division

See transcript pages 49-51

[10:57 a.m.](#) General Counsel Catherine Blue requested that the Commission approve the small business impact statement, pertaining to regulation 205 CMR 6.46 – Pentafecta Pool, for filing. She noted that this is the first step in the regulation promulgation process.

[10:58 a.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the small business impact statement for 205 CMR 6 Pari-mutuel Rules for Thoroughbred Racing, essentially 6.46 the pentafecta pools, and begin the formal promulgation process. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cameron. Motion passed unanimously.*

Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development

See transcript pages 51-72

[10:58 a.m.](#) Director Jill Griffin noted that our licensees are working closely with unions and contractors to ensure that their diversity goals are met. She reported that she attended an MGM open house for women interested in the construction trades. She also reported that Wynn held a meeting with more than 100 food vendors interested in servicing three shifts of construction workers on-site. She stated that this was a creative idea to provide opportunities to local small businesses during the construction of the casino site.

Director Griffin reported on the collaboration with SkillWorks (workforce funders collaborative) and community colleges (Bunker Hill and Roxbury) to conduct a culinary and hospitality workplace needs assessment for the greater Boston region. The report will address occupational skill gaps and recommended strategies. She stated that the initial report could be available in July and completed by the Fall.

Director Griffin presented on changes in reporting guidelines for supplier diversity during the design and construction of Category 1 gaming establishments. She noted that it would be a change from the existing state policy. She reported on recommendations which included gaming licensee retroactive reporting on diversity spend, notation in quarterly report regarding pre and post-certification status, and maintaining clear records evidencing when the company commenced work on a project and date of certification. She noted that all records would be subject to audit by the Commission. Director Griffin described her due diligence performed regarding the reporting change and provided an example relating to MGM and a veteran-owned business. General Counsel Blue suggested that the policy be posted for public comment and brought back before the Commission for a vote.

Racing Division

See transcript pages 72-93

11:26 a.m. Dr. Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing, presented on the request from Suffolk Downs for purse account money from the Race Horse Development Fund ("RHDF"). She stated that they are requesting \$2.4 million for six days of racing.

Dr. Lightbown reported that the Brockton group (Middleboro Agricultural Society) submitted a supplemental application. She stated that if they ask for the full \$5 million, there will be enough money in the fund to cover both meets and the different horsemen's groups. She noted that the Horse Racing Committee will be meeting to determine the split of the RHDF. Dr. Lightbown recommended that the Commission approve the request for \$2.4 million for purses.

11:29 a.m. Chip Tuttle, Chief Operating Officer at Suffolk Downs, stated that he is staging the races four weeks apart so that the Mass Breeders will have the opportunity to run their stakes races at our venue. He also stated that they have steeplechase races scheduled.

11:36 a.m. *Commissioner Cameron moved that the Commission approve the request made by Suffolk Downs for payment of \$2.4 million out of the Race Horse Development Fund for the purpose of funding purses at a six-day race meet proposed by Suffolk Downs and described in the memo by Dr. Lightbown in the Commission packet. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stebbins. Motion passed unanimously.*

11:37 a.m. Dr. Lightbown presented on Suffolk Downs request for \$325,000 for the horseman's association (New England Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association) of which \$225,000 is for operational expenses and \$100,000 is for a feasibility study. She noted that in previous years the Commission did not approve the \$100,000 because it was not for operational costs.

Commissioner Zuniga inquired about the line item for \$140,000. Dr. Lightbown responded that the money is for bookkeeping and consulting costs. General

Counsel Blue stated that those costs, and costs for staffing and insurance, fit into the operating expenses allowed under the statute. She stated that the number and kinds of costs are the same that the Commission approved last year.

11:40 a.m. *Commissioner Cameron moved that the Commission approve the additional payment of \$225,000 to Suffolk Downs out of the Race Horse Development Fund for the benefit of the NEHBPA (New England Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association) for administrative and operation expenses as described in Dr. Lightbown's memo. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stebbins. Motion passed unanimously.*

11:41 a.m. General Counsel Blue stated that the feasibility study matter came before the Commission last year. It was discussed and determined that it was not an appropriate expense. She stated that there have been subsequent meetings between staff and the horsemen's group and it was explained to them as well. She noted that the RHDF is designed for purses (80%), breeders program (16%), and health and welfare benefits (4%). She stated that the study they are proposing is a capital expense and it doesn't fit into any categories of the fund.

11:46 a.m. *Commissioner Cameron moved that the Commission deny the request by the NEHBPA (New England Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association) for payment from the Race Horse Development Fund in the amount of \$100,000 to cover the costs of a feasibility study for the creation of an equine park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Macdonald. Motion passed unanimously.*

Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated

See transcript page 93

11:47 a.m. *Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cameron. Motion seconded by Commissioner Macdonald. Motion passed unanimously.*

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Notice of Meeting and Agenda dated June 9, 2016
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Draft Meeting Minutes dated May 10, 2016
3. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Draft Meeting Minutes dated May 12, 2016
4. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Draft Meeting Minutes dated May 26, 2016
5. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Memorandum dated June 9, 2016, regarding Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) Initial Budget Recommendations, with attachments
6. Small Business Impact Statement, 205 CMR 6.00: Pari-Mutuel Rules for Thoroughbred Racing, Harness Racing, and Greyhound Racing (Pentafecta Pools)
7. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Memorandum dated June 6, 2016, regarding Supplier Diversity Certification and Retroactive Reporting, with attachment
8. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Memorandum dated June 6, 2016, regarding Suffolk Downs Request for Race Horse Development Funds, with attachments

/s/ Catherine Blue

Catherine Blue, Assistant Secretary