

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING #212

CHAIRMAN

Stephen P. Crosby

COMMISSIONERS

Gayle Cameron

Lloyd Macdonald

Enrique Zuniga

Bruce Stebbins

MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION
101 Federal Street, 12th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts
March 16, 2017
10:05 a.m. - 11:47 a.m.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: We are calling to
4 order public meeting number 212, Thursday,
5 March 16th at the gaming commission
6 headquarters. First item is approval of
7 the minutes. Commissioner Macdonald.

8 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I was not
9 at the meeting, and so I will defer to
10 other members of the commission who were.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Commissioner
12 Zuniga.

13 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Yes,
14 Mr. Chair, I have the minutes for
15 March 2nd. The meeting of March 2nd are
16 included in the packet. I've reviewed them
17 and move to approve them subject to
18 typographical or nonmaterial corrections.

19 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Mr. Chair, I
20 have two just quick additions, just things
21 that I pointed out, you know, I pulled out
22 of the transcripts. One is just a note.
23 After Director Bedrosian's report, I had
24 some comments about thoroughbred racing.

1 And then at the conclusion of the Wynn
2 presentation, one of the things, I think,
3 we asked Mr. DeSalvio for was an update on
4 FTE count salary and benefits if any of
5 those changed because of their changes to
6 the operations. And he said he was going
7 to run those numbers for us, so I want to
8 make sure.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: You want that in
10 the minutes.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: In the
12 minutes, yes. So I just share those quick
13 edits for Catherine and Cecelia.

14 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Anybody else?
15 This was just sort of for future reference.
16 On 12/10 the diversity update from MGM, you
17 know, the meat of the issue was the
18 numbers, you know, that they were way in
19 excess of their objectives. And, I think,
20 and it doesn't really matter right now but
21 just as a matter of a general principal you
22 get those nuggets in there, that would be
23 great. Anything else?

24 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second, Mr.

1 Chair.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: All in favor?

3 Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

5 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

6 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

7 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

8 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
9 have it unanimously. Then we'll move to
10 item number three, the update from the
11 executive director.

12 MR. BEDROSIAN: Good morning,
13 Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. I have
14 three items today to which I will address
15 one, which I'll ask Mr. Ziemba to address.
16 The first one is with us today from our
17 vender, IGT, which is International Gaming
18 Technology. And for those who may have
19 forgotten, the Commission had voted and we
20 currently have what's called a Central
21 Monitoring System, CMS, that monitors right
22 now currently the slot machines in
23 real-time at Plainridge. But when we're
24 fully operational, obviously we'll monitor

1 close to 8, 9, 10,000 machines across the
2 state in all our operations.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And has a lot of
4 capacity to do other stuff and analytics
5 and so forth.

6 MR. BEDROSIAN: Exactly. So with
7 our CIO, Mr. Lennon, is an employee of IGT
8 who works at our central monitoring station
9 Priya Gondotra. The reason he's here I
10 wanted to recognize that IGT gives out a
11 yearly game-changer award, which Priya
12 deservedly so got. And I'll just tell you
13 at the prominence awards, IGT employs
14 12,000 people. There were 140 nominees out
15 of those 12,000. 28 were selected as
16 either team or individuals. And from the
17 28, seven individuals got awards and Priya
18 was one of those people.

19 And to give you a sense of what the
20 award is about, IGT gives an award. It's a
21 contribution in the past year of having
22 demonstrated one or more what they call
23 their IGT core values, responsible,
24 collaborative, authentic, passionate and

1 pioneering. And as I understand it based
2 on reports from our staff, Priya does go
3 above and beyond and always willing whether
4 he has to travel to PPC or help our folks
5 understand the central monitoring system
6 has really gone above and beyond. So even
7 though he's not our direct employee, he
8 works intimately with our staff and I did
9 want to recognize that because that is
10 quite an achievement for him.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great.

12 MR. BEDROSIAN: Congratulations.

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON:
14 Congratulations, great work.

15 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Thank you
16 very much.

17 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA:
18 Congratulations.

19 MR. BEDROSIAN: Secondly and less
20 exciting, I just wanted to give the
21 Commission a heads-up on something we will
22 be implementing as a staff and it has to do
23 with how we identify ourselves when we are
24 down at the properties. Right now just PPC

1 but in the future obviously our Category 1
2 properties. And this sort of came out of
3 one of my experiences just walking in
4 what's called the back-of-house, which is
5 sort of the operations centers of the
6 casinos. And if you haven't had the -- I
7 know you all have -- but if you haven't had
8 the opportunity, Plainridge's back-of-house
9 is fairly modest, I guess, by industry
10 standard. It's appropriate to its size.

11 What we will experience in MGM, and
12 Wynn, I think, will be much bigger back-of-
13 houses and the security in those situations
14 are also. That's a place that's very
15 sensitive. It's monitored by who is in
16 there. We didn't have a policy about sort
17 of identifying ourselves to those personnel
18 who work there.

19 So I've decided that we, like the
20 casino folks, will have to wear identifying
21 information that will identify who we are.
22 Probably wear it on some type of lanyard so
23 it will be appropriately displayable to the
24 people who work there and also surveillance

1 who identify who we are. So not a big
2 issue but just a change I'll let you know
3 about, and we will be working with staff to
4 implement that over the next couple of
5 months so that when we roll out to our
6 Category 1's, it will be second nature.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Will that also
8 unlock the doors?

9 MR. BEDROSIAN: This will not unlock
10 the doors. This will purely be
11 identification. We've talked about whether
12 we could consolidate functions, and we're
13 still working on it. Right now this is
14 just for identification.

15 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Just for
16 simplicities, I've got a handful of things
17 that I carry around.

18 MR. BEDROSIAN: And of course the
19 challenge will be you may have three sort
20 of door cards, one for each property.
21 Consolidating that cross technology may be
22 more challenging, so we're aware of that
23 and we will work on that.

24 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Maybe we can get

1 the gentleman from IGT to give us a hand.

2 MR. BEDROSIAN: That's right. And
3 the last one is administrative update that
4 Mr. Ziemba is going to give us.

5 MR. ZIEMBA: Thank you,
6 Commissioners. I asked the executive
7 director if I can inform you about an issue
8 that we discussed at yesterday's review
9 team meeting for the community mitigation
10 applications for this current round.

11 Earlier this week we were informed
12 by one of the applicants that an
13 application was not showing up on our list
14 of applications that we received for this
15 year.

16 They submitted our COMMBUYS number,
17 a COMMBUYS number. COMMBUYS is the system
18 that we utilize to accept all applications
19 pursuant to an initiative. At the state
20 level, all agencies, all state agencies
21 have to accept applications through the
22 state. It's the COMMBUYS system. But what
23 we discovered as a result of our review
24 this week is that one application from the

1 City of Springfield did not appear on our
2 list of applications.

3 Upon looking at it, we determined
4 that there was a technical issue that
5 resulted in not appearing in our system.
6 In essence, what happened was the City of
7 Springfield through its Department of
8 Health and Human Services submitted an
9 application timely on February 1st at
10 12:34, which is within the deadline.

11 But in the submittal, there was no
12 dollar amount that was input into the
13 amount of this bid box. And so when that
14 box is left blank, the COMMBUYS system
15 automatically defaults making the
16 application a no-bid quote. Because this
17 application was considered a no-bid quote,
18 the application did not show up as a
19 completed application.

20 We think that this is really a
21 technical matter. That we should proceed
22 with reviewing the application. One thing
23 that we will do is we will confirm with the
24 City of Springfield that it did intend to

1 submit that application, but we have no
2 reason to believe that it did not intend to
3 submit that application.

4 So just wanted to inform you we
5 would update all of the applications on our
6 website, and then we would proceed with
7 reviewing this application from the City of
8 Springfield. It's for the continuation of
9 the valet program that was initiated during
10 this year.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Seems totally
12 fine.

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I would
14 agree. It seems like they did submit. But
15 because of the technicality, it didn't show
16 up. So I think you're --

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Are they
18 re-purposing a bid form because --

19 MR. ZIEMBA: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So they're
21 adapting another form that doesn't quite
22 make sense to the user. I see the problem.

23 MR. ZIEMBA: You are exactly right.
24 That's exactly right. That's all I have.

1 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you.

2 MR. BEDROSIAN: Thank you. That's
3 all for me.

4 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay. Item number
5 4, the racing division, Director Lightbown.

6 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Good morning,
7 Commissioners.

8 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Good morning.

9 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Good
10 morning.

11 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Good morning.

12 MS. LIGHTBOWN: We have a number of
13 racing items. Most of them are fairly
14 routine standard operating procedures that
15 we go through each year. First of all, one
16 is from the Massachusetts Thoroughbred
17 Breeders Association. We have George
18 Brown, their president, and Anthony Zizza
19 here if you have questions.

20 They are asking to race certain
21 Mass. bred races at Finger Lakes in the
22 spring and the summer. We have done this
23 the last two years. This would be the
24 third year. With the shortened

1 thoroughbred season, this allows these
2 horses to race more often and spreads the
3 purse money out. If you have any
4 questions.

5 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: This takes our
6 purse money.

7 MS. LIGHTBOWN: This is our purse
8 money, yes. Most of it comes from the
9 racehorse development fund.

10 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Just gives
11 them more opportunity since there aren't
12 that many opportunities currently here to
13 use that money. So the Finger Lakes,
14 right, they were good enough to arrange
15 races for us there?

16 MR. BROWN: Right.

17 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Mr. Brown,
18 nice to see you. You're healing nicely.
19 Tell me, the Finger Lakes almost had a
20 problem, correct, but now --

21 MR. BROWN: But they've worked it
22 out.

23 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: They are on
24 track to run a full schedule of --

1 MR. BROWN: Yes. I think it's 149
2 days and they increased the purses \$500, so
3 everything worked out.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Great. But
5 will we race a similar amount as we did
6 last year at the Finger Lakes?

7 MR. BROWN: As you know, we've had a
8 reduction in the amount of money we have to
9 work with. But what we have done is we
10 reduced the value of the purses and spread
11 them out a little bit more so that
12 everybody gets a chance. And what we would
13 like to do is run 11 races at Finger Lakes,
14 and then hopefully we'll run our nine races
15 at --

16 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: At Suffolk.

17 MR. BROWN: At Suffolk. And then
18 we'd like to run a few more at the end
19 because our two-year olds don't get ready
20 to run until late in the year. And, so, we
21 wouldn't be ready to run them with the days
22 that Suffolk usually runs their races. So
23 we would like to be able to run them later
24 on.

1 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Okay, great.
2 Thank you for that.

3 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I just have
4 a question, because I'm not familiar with
5 how all of this works. Finger Lakes is a
6 track in New York State; is that right?

7 MR. BROWN: Right.

8 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: And do
9 they -- in setting up these, you know,
10 Mass. bred races, do they basically set
11 aside the use of the facility exclusively
12 for horses, you know, raised in
13 Massachusetts?

14 MR. BROWN: Yes. There is a lot of
15 horses that stay there year-round, I mean,
16 throughout the whole meet. And we race
17 there in between the races that we have at
18 Suffolk Downs so that we get a chance to
19 run our horses like all year-round instead
20 of just running nine races at Suffolk, and
21 then we'd be out of business.

22 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But one of
23 the -- on any given day, you could have
24 eight races say but one of them be a Mass.

1 bred race. So it's not exclusively they
2 are housed with other horses for the
3 regular meets. The 14th note the 16
4 percent split of the racehorse development
5 fund, that goes to the breeders and then
6 displayed among thoroughbreds and
7 standardbreds funds supplement the purses
8 for the breeders, which effectively can
9 take place here or in Finger Lakes.

10 MS. LIGHTBOWN: They got the law
11 changed a couple of years ago with the
12 change in the racing season to allow Mass.
13 bred races to occur outside of the state.

14 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Which then
15 allows the breeders to continue their
16 breeding program at least in theory.

17 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: In our
18 funds, the racehorse development fund
19 proceeds in part can contribute to the
20 purses despite the fact --

21 MS. LIGHTBOWN: They provide the
22 purses for those races.

23 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Provide the
24 purses for those races.

1 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So it's a benefit to
2 Finger Lakes. They don't -- for that race
3 on the card that day, they don't have to
4 provide the purse. It gives them an extra
5 race and also helps the horsemen there, you
6 know, if they are short on horses. You
7 have a group of horses with purse money
8 that are helping fill your card for the
9 day, so it helps them and then obviously
10 helps the Mass. breeders.

11 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: So whatever
12 is paid out of purses is racehorse
13 development fund.

14 MR. BROWN: Yes. And it goes
15 directly to the Mass. breeders and the
16 owners. None of that money goes to Finger
17 Lakes. The only money that they make for
18 running those races is the handle for those
19 races. All of the money goes to
20 Massachusetts owners and breeders, so it
21 all comes back in our state.

22 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: You mentioned 11
23 races. It says six here, six and seven. I
24 don't know if it makes too much difference,

1 but this says, "six restricted Mass. bred
2 allowance races and seven restricted Mass.
3 bred claiming races." Is that what you're
4 planning on?

5 MR. BROWN: Yes. Well, we have a
6 variety of races this year. Because what
7 happens sometimes is somebody will -- a
8 couple of people will have exceptional
9 horses, and they can win all the races and
10 everybody else gets shut out. So what
11 we've tried to do is make it so that all of
12 those good horses can't run in every race
13 and win everything. It gives everybody
14 else a chance. That's the purpose.

15 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: And how do you
16 do that, through the scheduling or --

17 MR. BROWN: Through the conditions
18 of the race.

19 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Like allowance
20 claiming system.

21 MS. LIGHTBOWN: They will set the
22 parameters on who is eligible.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Does this give you
24 the right flexibility? We're saying six

1 restricted allowance and seven restricted
2 claiming; is that --

3 MR. BROWN: Yes. Because what
4 happens is if you have a real good horse,
5 they are not going to run them in a
6 claiming race, so that eliminates that real
7 good horse from getting in the claiming
8 races and allows people with horses that
9 aren't so good a chance to win a race.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: But you don't need
11 the flexibility to decide maybe you want
12 six claiming races and seven allowance
13 races.

14 MR. BROWN: You can do it anyway,
15 but what we try to do is to balance it out
16 so everybody gets an equal opportunity.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I just don't know
18 whether the language needs to be more
19 flexible so they can do it or is it we are
20 technically approving only one use, seven
21 claiming, six --

22 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right. What you
23 asked for in your letter is what Chairman
24 Crosby is referring to.

1 MR. ZIZZA: The board voted on the
2 races that we approved looking at our --

3 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Mike.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Hit the
5 button.

6 MR. ZIZZA: How's that?

7 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Good.

8 MR. ZIZZA: So the Mass. breeders
9 board spent a lot of time looking at our
10 horse population and looking at what our
11 needs were. And like other breeder
12 programs across the country, we wanted to
13 make sure that we had multiple condition
14 races, so maiden races and claiming races
15 restricted to Mass. stallion, open
16 allowance races so that everybody, no
17 matter what type of horse you had, good
18 horse, a fast horse or slow horse, a horse
19 that runs short, a horse that runs long, a
20 maiden, no matter what you had you had an
21 opportunity to participate in our program.
22 And this way all of those horses could then
23 get ready to run so that they can be ready
24 in the state's program at Suffolk Downs.

1 So what we did was we basically came
2 up with a list of 11 races that we felt
3 would fulfill those criteria, and then
4 Finger Lakes will include those races in
5 the condition book. And the way we -- the
6 way we allot those races is due to the
7 expertise of the board and how we feel
8 would best fit our population.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So you thought it
10 through. This is the construct you want.

11 MR. ZIZZA: Yes, all set.

12 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Do we send anybody
13 out there?

14 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: We have
15 typically not had someone out there to
16 watch. Mr. Chair, is that something you're
17 interested in?

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Might, might.

19 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: It's always
20 simulcasted.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Let us know, Alex,
22 when the days are scheduled.

23 MS. LIGHTBOWN: We can get it
24 scheduled.

1 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay, further
2 discussion?

3 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes. I had
4 just this happened in your issues for the
5 Finger Lakes owner's association and
6 whatever they've resolved this so they will
7 be racing. What's the population of
8 horses, owners that are involved in these
9 races; how big a group are we talking?

10 MS. LIGHTBOWN: For Finger Lakes?

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes.

12 MS. LIGHTBOWN: I'm not sure what
13 the horse population in Finger Lakes is.
14 Would you have an idea?

15 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: I mean, for
16 the Mass. --

17 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Oh, for the Mass.
18 breders. How many horses do you think are
19 going to participate from Massachusetts in
20 those races?

21 MR. BROWN: In the regular races or
22 the Mass. breeder races?

23 MS. LIGHTBOWN: The Mass. breeder
24 races.

1 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Eleven times
2 eleven.

3 MR. BROWN: Maybe 100 or more.
4 There's going to be more this year than
5 there was last year actually, and every
6 year from now on hopefully there will be
7 more because I have more fulls being born
8 at my farm than I've had in the last couple
9 of years, so that helps.

10 MR. ZIZZA: We've also found more
11 horses in training, and people are putting
12 their horses back in training. So we feel
13 looking at all of the horses that were in
14 training last year that will be able to
15 fill this list of races, which is why we
16 came up with about that number, so
17 hopefully we will be in good shape.

18 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Mr. Chair, I
20 recommend that we approve the request of
21 the Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders
22 Association to run six restricted Mass.
23 bred allowance races and seven restricted
24 Mass. bred claiming races at Finger Lakes

1 racecourse this spring and summer.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

3 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
5 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

6 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

7 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

8 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
11 have it unanimously, and Mr. Brown would
12 like to speak.

13 MR. BROWN: I just have one other
14 question. If we decide we can afford to
15 run the races in the fall, do we have to
16 come back up here and present those races?

17 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Why don't you
18 lay out your plan to Dr. Lightbown, and
19 she'll advise us what she thinks we need to
20 do to move forward, okay?

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Or you could just
22 amend your thing.

23 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Well, that
24 would be the fall -- you're talking about

1 the fall?

2 MR. ZIZZA: After the Suffolk Down.

3 MR. BROWN: After the Suffolk Down
4 races.

5 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So this is
6 strictly for the spring and summer. Yes,
7 why don't you just discuss what you think
8 you would like to do, and Doctor will
9 advise us what kind of approval. We
10 probably need a second approval.

11 MR. ZIZZA: I would like to make one
12 comment. I just want to take about 10
13 seconds to thank the gaming commission
14 because these races at Finger Lakes, and
15 George can attest to this, have really been
16 the lifeblood for owners and Mass. bred
17 horses and for the breeders. It has
18 allowed us to keep our horses in training,
19 earn money, run all year long and be able
20 to take that money and put it back to
21 rebreeding.

22 And, for example, I have five new
23 mares this year that are in full. One is
24 due any moment. And it's the ability to

1 keep running all year and until we get a
2 permanent place to race to really be able
3 to keep the breeders active. And on behalf
4 of all the breeders, we just do want to
5 thank you for your support. You guys have
6 been nothing but supportive to us, so thank
7 you so much.

8 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Pleasure.

9 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: And could
11 you introduce yourself? I'm not sure if --

12 MR. ZIZZA: Oh sure. My name is
13 Anthony Zizza. I am the secretary
14 treasurer on the Mass. breeders board.

15 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Anthony,
16 thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Since you're
18 saying nice things, I will put in a pitch
19 for the legislation that's up at the
20 statehouse. As you know, the current
21 legislation runs out this summer and
22 something has to happen hopefully, you
23 know, if you have suggested amendments that
24 they make you feel better about it, you

1 know, more power to you. But it would be
2 great if everybody could get together
3 finally and get this resolved so we can
4 think really strategically about this
5 racehorse development fund and try to
6 figure out a long range plan here.

7 MR. ZIZZA: We certainly do, and we
8 welcome the idea of being involved in that.
9 Thank you so much.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: We will pitch
11 right in.

12 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I do have
13 another question just based on the comments
14 after the vote. So if I understand the
15 approach correctly, there is an expected
16 value on the purse money that comes to the
17 breeders based on the split and all that.
18 You're also of course weighing all the
19 factors in coming up with a number of
20 races. I guess, I assume that what you
21 know about Suffolk Downs and what you know
22 about these 13 races what's going to you
23 sort of maximize the use of the horse race
24 development fund money that is due to come,

1 what is the factor that then allows you to
2 say we will come back for more -- for an
3 additional request in the fall; are you not
4 using the moneys that will be available?

5 MR. BROWN: No, we are. But, see,
6 the problem we have is with the change in
7 the split and the fact that we had to pay
8 back retroactive money left us short and
9 it's going -- we're going to be short for
10 the next year also, because the casino
11 money is not going to come in hopefully
12 until 2018. So we've got to plan on
13 running our program for 2018 also.

14 So what we're trying to do is to
15 budget our money so that we can run
16 basically the same program for 2017 and
17 2018 based upon the amount of money that we
18 think we will have. And as far as the fall
19 races are concerned, we don't know -- you
20 know, we'll have a better idea as to what
21 we have available to work with. And, so, I
22 don't want to commit to, you know, the
23 races until after we finish with Suffolk
24 Downs. Then we'll have a better idea of

1 how much money we have left.

2 MS. LIGHTBOWN: If I can speak to
3 that. The racehorse committee's meeting
4 is, I believe, in May. So there's a
5 possibility that the percentage would
6 change then. The last time that was made
7 retroactive back to January 1st. So in May
8 there may be another changing of that
9 percentage. So it does make sense to kind
10 of go a step at a time and see what money
11 is going to be available.

12 MR. BEDROSIAN: Or it could stay the
13 same, right?

14 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: It does sound
15 like you also value the credibility of
16 similar year-to-year meets or races,
17 because that keeps your membership.

18 MR. BROWN: It keeps people breeding
19 horses. Because you have to remember, you
20 breed a mare and then you have to wait
21 three or four years before that horse
22 actually gets to run. And what we have
23 been saying is that we have to sort of
24 stabilize the amount of money we're going

1 to have available not being changed year by
2 year.

3 In other words, the best thing would
4 be to come up with some way of establishing
5 an amount of money that is going to be
6 there every year and people can count on
7 that money being available. And, so, they
8 can count on breeding their horses and
9 racing their horses, because they'll know
10 the money is going to be there when they
11 actually get to race.

12 That's the big problem we have right
13 now, the instability of, you know -- it
14 changes from year to year how much money we
15 have, and that's not good. It's like a lot
16 of speculation.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay. Did we
18 vote?

19 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Yes, we did.
20 We're good.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes, we voted.

22 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you for
23 your passion and coming in to see us and
24 good luck with your races this year.

1 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

2 MR. ZIZZA: Thank you so much. Let
3 us know if you want to make a trip out, and
4 we'll arrange a nice day.

5 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: All right, great.
6 Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Thank you.

8 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So next on the
9 agenda I'm going to turn it over to senior
10 financial analyst Doug O'Donnell, and he is
11 going to talk about the Suffolk Downs
12 capital improvement and promotional trust
13 funds.

14 MR. O'DONNELL: Good morning,
15 Commission.

16 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Good
17 morning.

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Good morning.

19 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Good morning.

20 MR. O'DONNELL: Once again I'm in
21 front of you with a request for
22 reimbursement for the Suffolk Downs capital
23 improvement trust fund. On this particular
24 request, we have a total of 26 items that

1 had been reviewed by the architect and
2 approved and the total amount for this RFR
3 is \$338,795.67.

4 This will -- as of the 10th, the
5 balance on this fund was \$880,838.72. And
6 with the Commission's approval on this
7 request, that would leave us a balance in
8 this fund of \$542,043.05. And as you know,
9 this accumulates on a daily basis, so we
10 will need your approval for this.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Questions,
12 thoughts? Commissioner Cameron, anything?

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: No. All the
14 paperwork is in order and receipts and
15 everything looks to be in order. So,
16 Mr. Chair, I move that we approve the
17 request for reimbursement for Suffolk Downs
18 capital improvement trust fund dated
19 March 16th as just outlined by Doug
20 O'Donnell.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

22 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
24 discussion?

1 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I do have a
2 question, and I feel I may have asked a
3 question similar to this in the past on
4 these approvals. There is a number of
5 projects from 2012, '13 and '14. They do
6 not necessarily get reimbursed
7 chronologically; is that a fair statement?

8 MR. O'DONNELL: That's correct.
9 It's how the architect goes out and reviews
10 those particular items. So, for example,
11 the architect was out a couple of weeks ago
12 and was looking at items that were done in
13 2014 and hadn't been around to finishing
14 all the items in 2012, so it isn't in
15 chronological order. It's submitted to us
16 in a chronological order. But by the time
17 he reviews it, it is done sporadically, so
18 we don't know exactly what's coming in.

19 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But is it fair
20 to say that the number of 2012 projects
21 eventually diminish and 2013 and '14?

22 MR. O'DONNELL: Yes, they do. We
23 fell behind on this, because they had a
24 huge project back in 2012.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: The administrative consent quarter from --

MR. O'DONNELL: Yes. So all of the moneys had gone to that particular project and these just accumulated over the years, so we're getting caught up now.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Okay.

MS. LIGHTBOWN: And Doug does keep a spreadsheet, so it's all straight on what's been asked for, what's been checked and what's been paid so that we are not doing it twice.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Yes, that I realize and realize before. I was just curious as to the pipeline, if you will.

MR. O'DONNELL: And we do have a number of revisions that come in and we have a dedicated team that works with us to get this done, so everybody does review it.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Yes, that's great.

COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: If I understand it right, the key control feature is that we have -- we have obtained

1 an architect to independently review the
2 work to attest to it having been done
3 adequately?

4 MR. O'DONNELL: That's correct. We
5 submit a letter to the architect every time
6 we get a request for consideration. So
7 he'll know what is in. And when the work
8 is finished and paid for, that is when he
9 goes out and does a review for the
10 reimbursement.

11 MS. LIGHTBOWN: And that's by
12 statute.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Right. If we get
14 our review renewed statute, we might
15 rethink this whole process.

16 MR. O'DONNELL: That would be a
17 great idea, for the benefit of everyone,
18 Mr. Chairman, yes.

19 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Was there a
20 second? Yes, there was. Any other
21 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

22 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

23 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

24 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

1 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
3 have it unanimously.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you.

5 MR. O'DONNELL: Next on the agenda
6 is also a request for reimbursement from
7 Suffolk Downs promotional trust fund. And
8 this is going back to projects that were
9 done in 2010 and 2011. The request for
10 reimbursement for the 2010 protect is
11 \$79,499.58, which will bring a zero balance
12 on that project.

13 And for the 2011 project, the
14 request is for \$127,452.99, which would
15 give us a balance on that particular
16 project of \$185,219.60. Total request is
17 \$206,952.57, and that is currently what is
18 in the trust fund today, so this will
19 basically deplete our promotional trust
20 fund. We will need your approval on this.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Questions? Do we
22 have a motion?

23 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Mr. Chair, I
24 move the Commission approve the request for

1 reimbursement for Suffolk Downs through the
2 promotional trust fund for the total
3 balance of \$206,952.57.

4 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

5 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
7 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

8 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

10 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: The ayes have it
13 unanimously.

14 MS. LIGHTBOWN: I forgot to mention
15 that we have Chip Tuttle, CEO of Suffolk
16 Downs here too.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: That's who that
18 is. I was wondering who that guy was.

19 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So our next agenda
20 item is the payments to individual
21 ticket-holders for parimutuel tickets.
22 Doug O'Donnell has gone over with Jimmy
23 Alcott from Suffolk Downs to review these
24 and came to the conclusion that \$471.20 is

1 owed. The individuals are listed in your
2 book there, so we do need a vote on that.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Commissioner
4 Cameron, you want to speak to this?

5 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I just have
6 to find the right --

7 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Remind me, the
8 outs, tickets.

9 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Yes. This is if
10 somebody has a ticket for some reason that
11 they can't produce that they have ways of
12 going back and seeing and verifying it on
13 some of them. So if they can, they do that
14 at the end of the year after they're cashed
15 out. Naturally this is two years --

16 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: In arrears?

17 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: You have to
19 wait one year to make sure that no one else
20 claims it?

21 MR. O'DONNELL: This is from 2015.

22 MS. LIGHTBOWN: 2017.

23 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So,
24 Mr. Chair, I move that we approve the

1 request of Sterling Suffolk racecourse for
2 ticket payments from 2015 for a total of
3 471.20.

4 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

5 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
7 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

8 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

10 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
13 have it unanimously.

14 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So our next item is
15 now that we have approved that money going
16 out, what we do is the rest of the tickets
17 from 2015 are now considered unclaimed and
18 so we ask for the tracks for that amount
19 back, and so the request for Suffolk Downs
20 is \$208,279.26. And, again, Doug O'Donnell
21 has gone over this with the folks at
22 Suffolk Downs to confirm this.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: This just goes to
24 the general fund.

1 MS. LIGHTBOWN: This will go back to
2 the purse accounts.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Oh, to the purse
4 accounts.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: And 2015 was
6 the first year of the short meet, remind
7 me?

8 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Correct, yes.

9 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: But this is
10 all parimutuel stuff also.

11 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right. It's
12 simulcasting. It's everything.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Do I have a
14 motion?

15 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I'll move,
16 Mr. Chairman, that we approve the
17 recommendation of the payment of
18 \$208,279.26 from the Sterling Suffolk
19 racehorse to the Commonwealth for 2015
20 unclaimed winnings otherwise known as out.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

22 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
24 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

1 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

2 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

3 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

5 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
6 have it unanimously.

7 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So next up we are
8 doing the same thing for the Wonderland
9 outs money. That came to 17,261.75.

10 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So, Mr.
11 Chair, I move that we approve the payment
12 of 17,261.75 from Wonderland Greyhound Park
13 to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for
14 2015 unclaimed winnings.

15 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Second.

16 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I just have
17 a question for clarification on this. With
18 Wonderland no longer being an operating
19 greyhound track, is this simulcasting
20 tickets?

21 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right, simulcasting
22 greyhound races at Suffolk Downs, which
23 they've done for quite a while.

24 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So they have a

1 license from Wonderland but they operate it
2 in Suffolk Downs, correct?

3 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right. It's
4 actually the license itself is at Suffolk
5 Downs.

6 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second? We had a
7 second. Further discussion? All in favor?
8 Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

10 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
14 have it unanimously.

15 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So the next item is
16 a similar one for Plainridge racecourse.
17 Their unclaimed tickets came to a total of
18 158,701.82.

19 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Mr. Chair, I
20 move the commission approve the payment of
21 158,701.82 from Plainridge racecourse to
22 the Commonwealth of Mass. for 2015
23 unclaimed winnings.

24 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Second?

1 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
3 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

5 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

6 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

7 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

8 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
9 have it unanimously.

10 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I have a
11 question, Director, this one was -- oh
12 wait, is this -- yes, for life handle or
13 parimutuel as well in Plainridge?

14 MS. LIGHTBOWN: It's for whatever
15 unclaimed tickets they have.

16 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But they
17 have -- the sum of the handle is
18 significantly higher at Plainridge Park
19 compared to Suffolk Downs; is that a fair
20 statement?

21 MS. LIGHTBOWN: No, Suffolk does --

22 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: That's what
23 explains the difference in unclaimed
24 proportionately?

1 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Next up.

3 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Okay. Next up is
4 the same thing for Raynham Park. Their
5 total came to 108,953.94.

6 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So,
7 Mr. Chair, I move that we approve the
8 payment of 180,953.94 from Raynham Taunton
9 Massasoit Greyhound Associations to the
10 Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 2015
11 unclaimed winnings.

12 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
14 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

15 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

16 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

17 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

18 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? You know
20 what. Next up.

21 MS. LIGHTBOWN: So next up we have
22 some items from Plainridge Park getting
23 ready for the racing season. We have got
24 with me Steve O'Toole, the director of

1 racing. The first item is approval of
2 their key operating and racing officials.
3 These folks have all been with them in the
4 past year and have been licensed with us
5 obviously in the past. Some of them are
6 still undergoing the background check and
7 all that for this year. So I ask for
8 approval but pending completion of the
9 licensure and background checks by the
10 state police.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Doctor,
12 because some of these names are familiar to
13 us, including the guy who wrote us the
14 letter, does that help speed up the
15 licensing process? I mean, hopefully they
16 haven't gotten into too much trouble since
17 September.

18 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Right. And,
19 actually, this year -- this is a good
20 opportunity to bring this up. For the
21 first time, we have what's been an actual
22 renewal license. So if they were licensed
23 with us last year but it's expired, they
24 can fill that form out instead of the

1 full-fledged form. So the from itself is
2 shorter, so that will help with that.

3 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: And,
4 Commissioner, certainly the state police
5 understand that all it is is an update from
6 where a previous backgrounds, so they would
7 just run checks within the last year, so it
8 is a much shorter process.

9 MS. LIGHTBOWN: And these people are
10 equally familiar to the state police down
11 there too. They know them all, so they
12 know they have been around.

13 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Mr. Chair, I
14 move the commission approve the request for
15 Plainridge Park Casino to approve the
16 March 11, 2017 list of key operating
17 personnel and racing officials pending
18 satisfactory completion of licensure by the
19 Mass. Gaming Commission racing division and
20 satisfactory completion of the background
21 checks by Mass. State Police.

22 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
24 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
haves it unanimously.

MS. LIGHTBOWN: The next item for
the agenda is the Pentafecta that
Plainridge is going to be implementing.
There's a few items that are just here
basically for notification on how they are
going to split their major pool and their
minor pool 50/50, and that they are going
to use the monetary value of 20 cents for
their unique wager, so you don't need to
approve those.

One thing they are going to do,
though, what they are asking for is a
difference in the takeout, reduce it to
20 percent on exotic wagers. It's normally
26 percent, and Steve is here if you have
any questions.

MR. O'TOOLE: Thank you,
Commissioners. So the objective of the

1 Pentafecta rollover is to grow a jackpot
2 that's carried over for the rest of the
3 slot machines. And in order to -- the
4 reason for the lower takeout is to advance
5 the jackpot progression, make it grow a
6 little bit quicker. Lower takeouts are
7 always a big customer favorite. Our
8 customers are always asking for lower
9 takeouts.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Will you promote
11 this; is this something that you advertise?

12 MR. O'TOOLE: Oh for sure, yes.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Interesting.

14 MR. O'TOOLE: And maybe at the next
15 commission meeting, I'll have more
16 information but the United States Trotting
17 Association also has a strategic wagering
18 program where funds are available to seek
19 pools and guarantee them at a certain level
20 to create more interest. Pompano Park has
21 had pretty good results with that as well
22 as Woodbine. And a fellow USDA director
23 that I was with a couple of weeks ago who
24 operates cattle expo is in charge of the

1 strategic wagering, and it's had pretty
2 good success.

3 They've guaranteed over \$19 million
4 in pools and only had, I think, it's
5 \$37,000 worth of liabilities and
6 guaranteeing \$19 million. So we're going
7 to try to work with them to maybe boost
8 this along as well. So we're hoping that
9 we will be able to get a pretty good
10 jackpot and create some excitement around
11 that.

12 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Steve, I
13 did my best to understand what you wrote
14 here in your proposal. I'm the new guy on
15 the block, as you know. But can you just
16 help me --

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I didn't
18 understand it either.

19 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: -- with
20 what a Pentafecta is and how that fits into
21 that program?

22 MR. O'TOOLE: Sure. I think I might
23 understand it. It actually took a few days
24 to sift through it to figure out what we

1 were going to do. We actually looked at
2 other states and what they do and how much
3 they rollover. But a Pentafecta is picking
4 the first five in exact order. If the way
5 that you hit this unique way of doing a
6 Pentafecta is that just because you pick
7 five doesn't mean that you get the jackpot.
8 You have to be the only person that day
9 that picks the jackpot. So that's where
10 the unique ticket comes in.

11 If there is more than one person
12 that picks the exact five in the finishing
13 order, then the pool on that day, 50
14 percent of the pool on that day gets paid
15 out as a constellation. The other
16 50 percent of the pool gets rolled over.
17 So it will keep growing --

18 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: To the next
19 race, to the next Pentafecta.

20 MR. O'TOOLE: Until the next
21 Pentafecta. We're only going to offer it
22 one race a day. So it will rollover and,
23 and that will grow until one person. Now,
24 the reason that it asks for the monetary

1 value of the ticket, Delchen (phonetic)
2 Park does what's called a super high-five
3 and that you have to have a one dollar
4 ticket even though they sell them in 10
5 cent increments, and you can box a lot of
6 horses for 10 cents, and it comes up to
7 \$12, \$24. But you have to have a one
8 dollar ticket in order to be able to hit
9 the jackpot.

10 So it has a lot of similarities to a
11 slot machine with the lines and everything,
12 but I don't know that much about it but I
13 walk by them all the time and see them
14 operating. And so it's kind of that same
15 way. You can strike a line on the slot
16 machine that's a huge winner. But if you
17 didn't play the right amount of money into
18 it, you don't hit the jackpot. So it's
19 kind of similar in that way.

20 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I am curious
21 because this is now the second year that --
22 we approved the Pentafecta before, correct?

23 MR. O'TOOLE: Well, we put the
24 regulation in last year. We did not

1 utilize it. It got in late, and we were
2 halfway through our meet, a little bit of a
3 horse shortage. We want to have nine or
4 ten horses.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: You want to
6 have a field of five horses.

7 MR. O'TOOLE: We will all be
8 playing, right, and still be tough to hit
9 believe it or not. It would be a lot
10 easier. We're going to try and have a nice
11 full field of nine or ten horses for these
12 races. And so we didn't take the chance at
13 jumping at it last year by the time we got
14 going, but we want to have it in place for
15 our opening day this year.

16 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Do you pick any
17 particular kind of horses or is it like --

18 MR. O'TOOLE: That's a great
19 question, and let me explain to you why
20 because you can have the best class -- the
21 fastest class and the best class and the
22 most money, it wouldn't be a very
23 competitive field. Because it might be, as
24 Mr. Brown was explaining, sometimes there's

1 just some that stand out.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Same guy wins
3 every time.

4 MR. O'TOOLE: Right. So claiming
5 races are a little bit more level because
6 trainers actually put the price tags on
7 their horses and all decide to race against
8 each other, so there's a little bit of a
9 way to keep that competitive. But my
10 secretary is very good at putting
11 competitive races out there on the track
12 and, you know, by nature they all can't be
13 the most competitive races, but he will
14 identify a class.

15 We always seem to have a class or
16 two that becomes very competitive, and it
17 will actually be a little bit difficult
18 here because we also don't want to do a lot
19 of rerun races because those are a little
20 bit telling, you know. If you have the
21 same group of horses going week after week
22 after week, it might be a little telling
23 with their performances.

24 So it will be a little bit of a work

1 in progress, but there is always some --
2 seems like there's always something that
3 comes up. Something every week where one
4 class becomes very competitive whether it's
5 horses dropping down, horses winning their
6 way up and we'll try to make the best of
7 the most competitive race we have for that
8 day to be this Pentafecta.

9 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So the idea is
10 to offer one Pentafecta a day?

11 MR. O'TOOLE: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Is that the
13 plan?

14 MR. O'TOOLE: We don't go into as
15 many outlets on Thursday and Friday as we
16 do on Monday and Tuesday. Monday and
17 Tuesday is pretty consistent. So we are
18 going back and forth with the idea of maybe
19 just Monday and Tuesday and not shutting
20 out any outlets of the jackpot. So we're
21 talking with our corporate simulcast
22 director, David Cope and Chris Mackalane,
23 about that just to make sure that we are
24 not going to offer it on Monday and Tuesday

1 throw out some big jackpot and some outlets
2 don't take us on Friday because of capacity
3 or what their issues are. They don't have
4 a chance to -- their customers don't have a
5 chance to bet into the pools.

6 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: The idea is
7 you will increase some of the simulcast
8 money with all these moves, right, the
9 lower takeout number and more steady wages.

10 MR. O'TOOLE: The simulcast as well,
11 and this is our live product for our
12 patrons and at the track as well.

13 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Right.

14 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great. Motion?

15 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So,
16 Mr. Chair, I move that we approve the
17 request of Plainridge Park to reduce the
18 takeout of the 20 percent on the Pentafecta
19 wagers.

20 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
22 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

23 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

24 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

1 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

2 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
4 have it unanimously.

5 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Well, while
6 we have you here, Mr. O'Toole, could you
7 give us a just a quick -- I know you are
8 preparing for the racing season. There are
9 more racing days this year. Does that
10 create some additional challenges? Also, I
11 know you have a big racing day, one of the
12 biggest in the country, right, this year,
13 so could you just give us a quick update?

14 MR. BEDROSIAN: And there's still
15 snow on the ground.

16 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I know.
17 Those are the challenges I'm talking about.

18 MR. O'TOOLE: Well, Alex asked me
19 maybe at the next meeting to give you a
20 more formal update.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay, good.

22 MR. O'TOOLE: But this is a pretty
23 good event. It's a quarter of a million
24 dollar race for open trotters, the best

1 trotters in the country. There was a
2 really nice hole in the national schedule
3 for this class. It's one week before the
4 Hamiltonian Day at the Meadowlands, which
5 fits perfect for the preppers for the
6 memorial, which is held that day for open
7 trotters across the country and we
8 anticipate that we'll have a nice field,
9 the best trotters that are racing at that
10 time.

11 The Hamiltonian Society is servicing
12 the race for us, so they are putting out
13 the nominations and checking all the fees
14 and sending the nominations back to us. So
15 they advertise it, and they have all the
16 access to all those stake horses, because
17 most of those go through the Hamiltonian
18 Society.

19 But, also, this is going to be
20 considered a grand circuit race, which
21 grand circuit races are held throughout the
22 country at all different tracks. They
23 acquire points, grand circuit points for
24 their categories. So we are happy to be

1 back in the grand circuit, which has been
2 probably 20, 25 years missing in
3 Massachusetts.

4 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So at the end of
5 the year some horse has won the grand
6 circuit is like automobile racing?

7 MR. O'TOOLE: Yes, for their class,
8 for their respective class.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: What is the date
10 of that race?

11 MR. O'TOOLE: That's July 28th.
12 It's a Friday.

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON:
14 Congratulations. That's really a tribute
15 to how far the track has come.

16 MR. O'TOOLE: And we're really happy
17 that we found that hole in the schedule,
18 because it's very difficult to get into the
19 schedule. We were looking for any
20 opportunity -- there's two horses that
21 raced around the country last year with one
22 of them had a very catchy name, Wiggle It
23 Jiggleit and the other one was Always B
24 Miki.

1 Always B Miki wound up being the
2 horse of the year, and he set a new world
3 record of 146 to cover a mile, which is
4 outstanding. And they created a lot of
5 excitement throughout the country through
6 this type of races. They were open pacers,
7 and the open pacers were pretty much their
8 dance card was full pretty much throughout
9 the year. So we were looking for an
10 opportunity for that class.

11 Wiggle It Jiggleit is coming back to
12 the race this year as well as a couple of
13 others who competed, so they are going to
14 have a pretty good following. But we're
15 still excited about the trot class.
16 Because, actually, last year's trotter of
17 the year for nationwide was a horse called
18 Obrigado and Obrigado was a Maine Bred, so
19 he is a New England bred horse owned by
20 Paul Kelly, David Kelly who was the
21 producer of "Picket Fences" and "Boston
22 Legal," those shows.

23 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Oh sure.

24 MR. O'TOOLE: They are actually

1 local -- actually a local connections.
2 They are from Walpole originally. And so I
3 got to see him at the Dan Patch awards, and
4 he is definitely game for this race this
5 year. So it will have a local flavor to it
6 even though it's a national event if the
7 horse races, you know, races as well as he
8 did last year. So I look forward to giving
9 you a more formal presentation.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes, that will be
11 great.

12 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you. I
13 didn't realize you were going to do that,
14 but I knew this was really behooved to get
15 this.

16 MR. O'TOOLE: We're happy. We want
17 to add a few more supporting events, and
18 we're also going to do some type of, for
19 our local horses that race every week, some
20 type of an earning type series that lead up
21 to that day and that they will be racing on
22 that day as well.

23 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Thank you

1 very much.

2 MS. LIGHTBOWN: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Next up, General
4 Counsel Blue.

5 MS. BLUE: Good morning,
6 Commissioners. First on our list today is
7 the election of officers for the
8 commission. Every year the commission by
9 statute is required to elect a secretary
10 and a treasurer, and March is the time that
11 we traditionally do that. So as you've
12 done in the past, you would nominate a
13 person or persons, Commissioners, for each
14 position and then vote on them and they
15 will hold that office for the upcoming
16 year.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I actually forgot
18 we were doing this. I should have done a
19 little advance work, but I think probably
20 we repeat where we're at.

21 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: We have some
22 willing volunteers I suspect.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Right. We've had
24 a long serving treasurer and a new but now

1 experienced secretary both doing
2 outstanding work. So, I guess, my
3 recommendation would be that we suggest
4 that we retain our two officers as before.

5 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Second.

6 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I agree.

7 Both doing great work and I thank you
8 because it is extra time to do the work
9 that you do, both of you, so thank you for
10 volunteering.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And thank you to
12 Treasurer Goldberg for reappointing
13 Commissioner Zuniga who is the one of us
14 that really understands all the arithmetic
15 of this business.

16 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So, I think, the
18 two of you probably will abstain. Do I
19 have a motion?

20 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: I move,
21 hopefully by acclimation, that we can
22 support the nomination of Commissioner
23 Zuniga as our treasurer and Commissioner
24 Macdonald as our secretary for one year.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Any discussion,
campaign speeches?

COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Questions
and issues?

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: All in favor?
Aye.

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Commissioner
Cameron, Chairman Crosby and Commissioner
Stebbins vote yay.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And have
re-elected our two officers.

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you
both.

COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I'm
humbled.

MS. BLUE: Next on our list we have
Attorney Torrisi and her colleagues, Bruce
and Burt from the IEB to talk with you
about bringing the uniformed standard rules
of the game regulation into the formal

1 promulgation process.

2 MS. TORRISI: Good morning, Mr.
3 Chair and Commissioners.

4 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Morning.

5 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Morning.

6 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Morning.

7 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Morning.

8 MS. TORRISI: So last month
9 Assistant Director Band, Senior Supervisor
10 Gaming Agent Cain and I presented you with
11 the draft rules of the game regulations,
12 205 CMR 147 and following the meeting we
13 put those regulations out for informal
14 comment. We did receive comments from
15 Scientific Games and MGM, both of which you
16 have in your packet and Assistant Director
17 Band is going to run through those comments
18 with you.

19 MR. BAND: MGM's first comment
20 involved their ability to switch and
21 implement changes to the rules of the game
22 or for the tables as they go. We required
23 a half hour notice and also the
24 notification of the IEB. They wanted to

1 eliminate that part. The IEB feels that
2 it's important that we retain that. For
3 any investigation that we might have to do
4 on a table game, it's important that we
5 know what rules are in effect as an
6 incident occurred or happened and this is
7 no delay to the casino at all to notify us,
8 because we have staff there 24/7.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: What's done
10 elsewhere; what's the standard practice?

11 MR. BAND: In Pennsylvania and
12 Maryland, they give notice to the proper
13 authorities there, New Jersey does.

14 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Advanced so
15 there's a delay if there is a lag time?

16 MR. BAND: In order to really do it,
17 you're talking maybe a half hour process to
18 implement a new rule. I would question the
19 ability for them to be able to do that any
20 faster. You know, it could be as easy as
21 picking up a phone in the pit and calling
22 one of our agents and saying, "Hey, we are
23 going to be offering this wager starting at
24 such and such."

1 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: That all
2 sounds to me very appropriate. I fail to
3 get the business case for that MGM states
4 here for not even that half an hour notice.
5 Why would they want to change all of a
6 sudden without even alerting us?

7 MR. BAND: I can't really answer
8 that for you.

9 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Okay, fair
10 enough.

11 MR. BAND: The second thing was on
12 147 045, and that's to relocate the signage
13 that was going to be outside the casino to
14 near the table. We agree with that. There
15 is no problem with that. The third thing,
16 which is 147 071, and that was the spread
17 on the minimum/maximum wagers. We agreed
18 with this comment as well and have no
19 problem with it.

20 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: So, Bruce,
21 really quickly the second change, is that
22 reflected in the current version that we
23 have?

24 MR. BAND: I don't believe it is.

1 MS. TORRISI: No, it's not.

2 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: So whatever
3 that is, number 3 under field trials, we'll
4 change that to posted by the game.

5 MR. BAND: Yes. Then Scientific
6 Games, they wanted to add a line into the
7 thing that it said to approve or deny with
8 reasonable cause, they wanted that in
9 there. I don't see us ever denying it
10 without some reasonable cause. I have no
11 problem with adding that into the wording
12 in the regulation. If we were going to
13 reject it, we would have to have a reason I
14 assume.

15 The second part is 147 04, this I
16 would recommend that we deny in the sense
17 that the modifications and things that they
18 suggest in here -- well, I just don't think
19 are reasonable in a test environment.

20 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I'm sorry, in
21 what kind of environment?

22 MR. BAND: Test, game test.

23 MS. TORRISI: Also, we had added the
24 public comment period largely because we

1 were moving the rules of the game from the
2 regulation -- the formal promulgation
3 process. So by doing that, we were
4 eliminating the public comment period. So
5 we had put that in so the public would
6 still have an opportunity to comment for
7 transparency sake.

8 MR. BAND: I don't see where we
9 would want to deny the public for some
10 reason to comment if they wanted to.

11 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: And they claim
12 here that if we allow public comment during
13 the trial period, it could be essentially
14 confusing; is that --

15 MR. BAND: I think you do just by
16 the nature of the test we accept comments
17 from people that write us letters or notes
18 saying, "Hey, this game really isn't fair
19 to the public." I mean, that is part of
20 the testing to see what kind of a feedback
21 we get from the patrons.

22 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: But that is
23 not a formal public comment is what you're
24 saying.

1 MR. BAND: No. I think it is a
2 public comment when you put something in
3 writing.

4 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: No, no. I
5 mean, but it's not announced. When we do
6 public comments, we put it out there. So
7 what you're saying is this adds kind of a
8 formal public comment period as well as
9 whatever remarks come in during testing.

10 MR. BAND: Yes.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Other questions?
12 What about the general point? You didn't
13 speak to that one at the top there.

14 MR. BAND: At the top?

15 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes.

16 MR. BAND: We had recommended before
17 that we would want to get all the
18 materials. It doesn't mean that using
19 somebody else's information wouldn't speed
20 up the process, but we would need that
21 information submitted to us as well. We
22 would look at how that game does in the
23 other jurisdictions that are already
24 approved, but the final decision on whether

1 that game is used in our jurisdiction would
2 be Massachusetts.

3 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Are there
4 examples of in your experience? I know
5 there is a great deal of experience, and I
6 see you have your four most experienced
7 gaming agents with us today as well.

8 MR. BAND: I was going to introduce
9 them during the next -- yes, Poker would be
10 a good example that's used in almost every
11 jurisdiction.

12 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And we've decided
13 not to?

14 MR. BAND: No, we have.

15 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: I was
16 asking -- I was going to ask is there an
17 example of a game that we may not choose to
18 have that someone else may have?

19 MR. BAND: Well, I'm sure there's
20 some in Nevada that --

21 MR. CAIN: Some of the games that
22 have been accepted in other jurisdictions
23 by trial and error, the licensees know that
24 might not be a popular game here, so

1 probably won't even be brought up here.

2 MR. BAND: Croquette would be an
3 example of one. It was adopted in New
4 Jersey, and nobody ever played it ever.

5 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: But that's not --
6 what Commissioner Cameron is asking is:
7 Are there ones approved elsewhere that we
8 might not approve?

9 MR. BAND: I don't think we would
10 approve that, because nobody played the
11 game at all. We didn't put it in our
12 packet.

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So part of
14 our vetting is to see how it does
15 elsewhere.

16 MR. BAND: Yes, I think we would
17 look at that. I'm sure that the licensees
18 would be looking at the same thing before
19 they wanted to offer it.

20 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: My
21 understanding of this is that the process
22 is not just automatic. That we would look
23 at everything else. We would look our due
24 diligence like we always intend to. But,

1 importantly, we'll take data points from
2 other jurisdictions.

3 MR. BAND: During the information
4 process.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: It's just not
6 going to happen automatically. Just
7 because Nevada approves it, it's approved
8 in Massachusetts.

9 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Correct, but
10 you will use that information so that you
11 are not --

12 MR. BAND: Absolutely.

13 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: You are not
14 reinventing the wheel. There's some body
15 of work out there that's useful to us.

16 MS. TORRISI: So the next step with
17 these regulations is to move them forward
18 in the formal promulgation process. In
19 your packet, you have a draft small
20 business impact statement and you have a
21 resolution in front of you as well if
22 you're prepared to vote on that today.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I had a couple of
24 questions about the reg. if nobody else

1 does. On page three of the reg., Section 7
2 review, this says -- in the middle it says,
3 "similarity to other authorized games or
4 other games of chance." Why do we say "of
5 chance"? Aren't there likely to be games
6 particularly in the future that are still
7 skill-based or at least partially
8 skill-based; what's the relevance of having
9 the words "of chance" there?

10 MR. BAND: I think skill-base is
11 really more in the slot venue, at least
12 what I have seen so far.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes, you're right,
14 okay. But we also -- so do you consider
15 poker a game of chance?

16 MR. BAND: You have to get the right
17 cards.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: It's both.
19 It's always a mix.

20 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So the words "of
21 chance" doesn't -- it's really unnecessary
22 because you're saying --

23 MR. BAND: I think I agree with
24 that. It's just a term that's commonly

1 used.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: You're not meaning
3 to limit it in any way by the use of those
4 words, okay. I don't know whether
5 there's -- I don't know whether it's -- I
6 guess if it's sort of a term of art, yes,
7 okay.

8 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Well, in this
9 context this applies -- this is meant to
10 apply to every game, right, that we're
11 looking at it here, so even a qualifier or
12 a skill or a chance would apply.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I'm sorry?

14 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So this
15 section is meant to apply to a new game,
16 right, and this sentence is meant to be
17 broad, so that any other authorized games
18 or other games of chance, meaning we could
19 write it as broad as possible or a skill or
20 a chance or a combination of both but it's
21 meant to apply to all the games.

22 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Are there games
23 that are considered -- are there games that
24 are not considered games of chance?

1 MR. CAIN: Perhaps this wording is
2 developed so that in the future there is a
3 game similar to dice, which is a total game
4 of chance. Maybe there is another one
5 coming along as incorporating all of them.
6 I'm not sure of the language here.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay. We don't
8 see anybody nodding. Are there any games
9 out there that aren't considered games of
10 chance, gentlemen?

11 MR. LINDROOS: Not that I'm aware
12 of, no.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So what I am
14 saying is irrelevant basically.

15 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I always think
16 of games as a combination some more chance
17 than others. But once you have chance in
18 the game, there's a chance. It requires
19 skill to play it. You have to know how to
20 play it. But with a little bit of chance,
21 it's a game of chance.

22 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: It's fine. I'm
23 dropping the point. I've got it. Anybody
24 else other ones? I had -- I was just

1 curious on the last page five, number four,
2 "gaming licensee may in its discretion
3 permit a player to wager below the
4 established minimum or above the
5 established maximum."

6 So does that mean you're in the
7 middle of a game and somebody says or
8 you're in the middle of a table that has
9 been playing along and somebody says I want
10 to come in below the minimum, the dealer
11 can say yes and that just goes along?

12 MR. BAND: It would usually be
13 approved by the shift boss or shift
14 manager, and it would probably be used
15 exclusively for a high-roller or a real
16 well-known player.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: What would it
18 be -- would there be an obligation to post
19 that somehow or other? It seems to me
20 you'd want to.

21 MR. BAND: Usually on their mid/max
22 signs, it has that statement that
23 management can allow somebody to bet below
24 the minimum or above the maximum, a new

1 player.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So is it standard
3 operating procedure that a game -- that
4 this clause will be utilized that you'd be
5 permitted to go above, permitted to go
6 below fairly flexibly and without any big
7 deal you might just do it in the middle of
8 a game and the other players hardly even
9 know?

10 MR. BAND: For certain players, yes.

11 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And there is no
12 need -- there is no notice need. We
13 shouldn't be requiring somebody to --

14 MR. BAND: Because it doesn't apply
15 to the whole table that they allow that.

16 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Right, right. It
17 doesn't affect, I guess, anybody other --

18 MR. BAND: Than the one person.

19 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Could they do
20 it back and forth; like now you can exceed
21 the max, now you can, you know --

22 MR. BAND: It would usually be
23 agreed on like when they come in or that
24 he's allowed to place any wager above the

1 table max.

2 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: And, Bruce,
3 is this customary in the industry to have
4 this flexibility at the tables?

5 MR. BAND: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: He says it's
7 usually posted on the signs. So, I
8 guess -- were you trying to say something,
9 Eric?

10 MR. CANTELL: An example is if
11 somebody has a table max that he could play
12 on any given blackjack game and say he's
13 playing in a private table but then he
14 decides to leave that private table and go
15 to another active game, they would give him
16 his max on that active game, and that's
17 basically what it comes down to.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I also thought
19 of when let's say over the weekends the
20 casinos raise the minimum because it's
21 busier or whatever but they let the player
22 who is there before they raise to continue
23 at that minimum. Is that also operating
24 here?

1 MR. CANTELL: It's considered like
2 grandfathering somebody into the game, but
3 it's only for a period of time.

4 MR. BAND: Yes, usually a half hour.
5 You don't see them betting below the
6 minimum that often.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And this one --
8 this may be a useless exercise. But on
9 page four at the bottom, item one, this one
10 about the \$100 that was referred to, what's
11 the point of this? I don't quite
12 understand. What's the logic here; what's
13 going on?

14 MR. BAND: Oh, with the mid/max?

15 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes.

16 MR. BAND: It's giving for somebody
17 who doesn't have a table that's a 5-dollar
18 minimum and a 10-dollar max. It gives the
19 players a chance to regroup some of their
20 funds on other wagers, but competition will
21 more dictate that in this jurisdiction. So
22 we're really not as concerned with
23 regulating that aspect.

24 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: But this says, "If

1 you have a required minimum wager of \$100
2 or less which has corresponding payout odds
3 of five to one or less shall be required to
4 have a maximum wager which is at least 10
5 times the amount of" -- I don't even follow
6 that. I don't even know what that says.

7 MR. BAND: Like, if you had a
8 5-dollar table, it would have to be 10
9 times. That would be the max, maximum
10 wager. That kind spread at least.
11 10-dollar table would have to be \$1,000
12 max.

13 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But this is
14 only on certain games. It doesn't apply to
15 every game.

16 MR. BAND: Correct.

17 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: It applies to
18 the minimum/maximum type games.

19 MR. BAND: Yes. But I still say,
20 like, that was part of MGM's comment that I
21 would leave that up to the licensee more
22 because competitively they are going to
23 have to give the fairest thing to the
24 public; otherwise, nobody will come there

1 to gamble. There's too many casinos in the
2 area.

3 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: What are
4 examples of a minimum/maximum bet?

5 MR. BAND: Blackjack.

6 MR. CAIN: I was just going to defer
7 to Eric and Sterl, these guys back here.
8 Is that similar to the Roulette bet for the
9 minium? Might be higher but inside you are
10 only allowed to bet a lesser amount. Am I
11 saying that correctly?

12 MR. CANTELL: Yes. In Roulette you
13 have an outside wager on the even chances
14 that a certain max and then on a dozen bet
15 or a common bet, which is two to one, there
16 is another max there. So say the outside
17 was 5,000, the common bet is 2,500. That's
18 your max you can bet. On the numbers, they
19 might match you out at \$100 per bet on any
20 given bet on the inside, okay, and that is
21 the --

22 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: And the number
23 is the minimum.

24 MR. CANTELL: Yes.

1 MR. CAIN: Because of the payout
2 being 35 to one, they didn't want to make
3 you bet 500 on that because now we are into
4 math they are not comfortable with. So
5 they tiered the different bets based on the
6 payout odds in the game.

7 MR. CANTELL: And like Bruce said
8 about competition, there is going to be
9 competition on odds betting for crap
10 tables. Some of them might offer three,
11 four, five. Some of them might offer five
12 times bet. Some of them might offer ten
13 times the odds. So that's what he is
14 leaning towards as far as competition goes
15 for certain maximums.

16 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Will we ever
17 see 100 times?

18 MR. CANTELL: You might see Steve
19 Wynn offer it to somebody I'm sure. They
20 offered it a couple places. I would think
21 their standard would be 10 times would be
22 your biggest on the Craps table.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Anybody else
24 questions? So this is a vote to put this

1 into the formal process to send it to the
2 secretary of state?

3 MS. BLUE: Yes. This is a vote to
4 start the process, so we will be putting it
5 out for public comment. We'll schedule the
6 public hearing.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So this was an
8 informal public comment period.

9 MS. BLUE: Yes, that's right, what
10 we have done so far.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Mr. Chair, I
12 move the commission approve the small
13 business impact statement for 205 CMR 147
14 as included in the packet and authorize the
15 staff to take all the steps necessary to
16 begin the regulation promulgation process.

17 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
19 discussion?

20 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Just a quick
21 question, Carrie, when we say "authorized
22 staff to take all steps," you're going to
23 include that change in the trial period?

24 MS. TORRISI: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Further
2 discussion? All in favor? Aye.

3 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

6 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
8 have it unanimously.

9 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: That was only
10 the small business impact statement? We
11 don't need --

12 MS. BLUE: No, it's to take all
13 steps, so it includes the regulations as
14 well, yes.

15 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Thank you.

16 MS. TORRISI: So next up is the
17 second set of game rules. So for that,
18 I'll turn it over to Mr. Band and Mr. Cain.

19 MR. BAND: I'd like to start by
20 introducing the supervising staff, the
21 gaming agents, who were all very involved
22 in the creation of these rules of the game.
23 It's Eric Cantell, Angela Smith, Jay
24 Lindroos and Sterl Carpenter. And if you

1 have any serious questions about the games,
2 they will answer them.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So are we on item
4 number 6? We've gone to the IEB, so we're
5 not doing Director Wells. We're just going
6 directly --

7 MS. WELLS: I have nothing.

8 MR. BAND: At today's meeting, this
9 is, I think, like the third phase of games
10 that we've submitted. It's the next 13
11 games on the list, which include
12 mini-baccarat, Sic Bo, Pai Gow, Pai Gow
13 poker, baccarat-Chemin de Fer, poker,
14 Caribbean stud poker, double down stud, Let
15 It Ride poker, Spanish 21, three-card
16 poker, fast action hold 'em and Colorado
17 hold 'em poker, which --

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Is Pai Gow the
19 tiles?

20 MR. BAND: The Pai Gow tiles, the
21 Pai Gow poker.

22 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Can we hear about
23 that some more?

24 MR. BAND: Yes. Eric?

1 MR. CANTELL: I'll set your hands
2 for you.

3 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Commissioner
4 Zuniga has offered to teach it.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I only know
6 the supreme payer.

7 MR. BAND: That works and Chemin de
8 Fer means railway in French. I did look
9 that up. Are there any questions on these
10 games?

11 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: When I look
12 at how complicated some of them are, I
13 think that we are very, very fortunate to
14 have this experienced staff willing to come
15 here to Massachusetts. I think that's a
16 tremendous addition to our team. Having
17 had lessons and also observed their work
18 product down at Plainridge, I'm just
19 thanking you all for leaving your states,
20 coming here and this really demonstrates
21 the need for your expertise looking at some
22 of the games and how complicated they
23 really are.

24 MR. BAND: Thank you, Commissioner.

1 We would certainly be lost without them.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes. I mean, you
3 must be bored to tears. And now that we
4 have seen you at the tables teaching us and
5 all the stuff you guys know about the table
6 games, you must be bored to tears at
7 Plainridge dying to get these other places
8 open.

9 MR. BAND: They're anxious. Let's
10 put it that way.

11 MR. CAIN: Looking forward to the
12 next step, absolutely.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: But I agree with
14 Commissioner Cameron. It's a really good
15 point. We're really lucky to have all six
16 of you, you too, Cecelia, but this would be
17 impossible for us obviously without having
18 people like you who really know what you're
19 doing.

20 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: And not only
21 their expertise but their willingness to
22 teach our less experienced gaming agents.
23 I've observed that also. That doesn't
24 always happen and that's very, very helpful

1 as well.

2 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Let me ask you
3 this. I can't add anything. I can't read
4 these rules and say, hey, forget such and
5 such. I mean, it's ridiculous. But what
6 is the process that you -- where -- did you
7 pick up somebody else's rules pretty much
8 whole cloth and then review them or what's
9 the process that you all are going through?

10 MR. BAND: We actually pick and
11 choose from numerous jurisdictions, from
12 Maryland and Pennsylvania, New Jersey, some
13 of the Midwest with variations of the games
14 that they had. And all these people did
15 was the research on it and even spoke to
16 people that they knew that offered those
17 games for certain things to make sure that,
18 you know, you want to add in Jay and Angela
19 from the surveillance end, things that they
20 have seen with these games and different
21 protections that they felt we needed in our
22 regs. to stop some of these things from
23 happening.

24 MR. CAIN: They all came forward

1 during this process once we have been
2 reviewing all these regs. for different
3 jurisdictions and getting their input and
4 they have all come forward with great,
5 great points and many of which have been
6 adopted into our regulations.

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Can you give an
8 example of something that we might not have
9 picked up, something that has changed?

10 MR. CAIN: The shuffle, if you're
11 going to do a manual shuffle, we put in the
12 five things that are required. Sterl, do
13 you remember the turn and racing, what else
14 are there?

15 MR. CARPENTER: You have the strip.

16 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Speak up, Sterl.

17 MR. CAIN: So that helped protect.

18 MR. BAND: Yes, but that was the big
19 one. And, also, we even had input from Sal
20 who was telling us if you're worried about
21 people that are reading the cards, these
22 are things that you want to do to protect
23 yourself.

24 MR. CARPENTER: An example that you

1 might be wondering for our regulation where
2 we took regulations from several
3 jurisdictions and looked over them in Pai
4 Gow poker, and we weighed what we wanted
5 and actually had the licensee ask us about
6 maybe bonuses and whatnot. So we had to
7 adapt to the regulations to make sure that
8 we were both comfortable with what they
9 wanted and both the rules were applied to
10 what we wanted and to follow as well, so we
11 kind of like developed our own by a
12 combination.

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great.

14 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So they had
15 input with the licensees on these rules?

16 MR. BAND: We got a list of
17 requested wagers that they wanted us to
18 include. To be honest with you, we're
19 still working on that. I'm working with
20 Jay on organizing that so we can get all
21 the wagers that they requested into the
22 regs.

23 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But those --
24 on that note, those changes to wagers or

1 the stipulation of different wagers will
2 not be a part of the regulation because we
3 don't have those things in regulation, have
4 them in the rules of the game.

5 MR. BAND: For the rules, yes, that
6 is where they will be added into.

7 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So we would
8 not need the formal promulgation process.

9 MR. BAND: No. So, therefore, it
10 would be faster. If some new wager comes
11 out, it will be something that we would be
12 able to adopt.

13 MR. BEDROSIAN: And, Commissioner,
14 that's a good point. Just to remind the
15 Commission, you've made a decision that
16 these are rules that they would be
17 promulgated pursuant to an overarching
18 regulation that basically says, for the
19 rules of the game, go to the website and
20 see those with the underlying theory that,
21 as we just said, we want to be as flexible
22 as we can.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Right.

24 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: And the

1 process from here, will these be submitted
2 to the licensees for their further comment?

3 MR. BAND: Yes. This will be put
4 out for further comment as of today. I
5 assume you will have them on the website.
6 And then at the meeting of the 30th, we'll
7 complete the list of games that we are
8 going to be offering and have the comments
9 come in, the licensees and the public.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay. So we do
11 ask for public because, Elaine, there is
12 probably some players out there, maybe
13 people that would be interested in just
14 folks who play to read these and make some
15 suggestions. We should make sure that we
16 have a public announcement that these rules
17 are out there for public comment.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I was also
19 just curious on the highlighted sections in
20 the packet, they're usually referred to our
21 own regulations. Was that the intention
22 just to --

23 MR. BAND: They are highlighted just
24 so they can be updated correctly as we

1 adopt like the gaming equipment.

2 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Are there
4 anything in the rules of the gaming,
5 especially when it comes to wagering, that
6 impacts the next section which is talking
7 about the table game regs.? I mean,
8 talking about the equipment regs.,
9 different things you need on the board.

10 MR. BAND: It is in the sense
11 because the wagers are usually spelled out
12 on the layouts, so they are tied together
13 that way and go hand in hand.

14 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great. So, I
15 guess, this does not say vote.

16 MR. BAND: It's just light reading.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Right.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So we're on
19 the third batch; is this the third batch?

20 MR. BAND: We have one more coming
21 that's the remainder of the games, and that
22 will be at the meeting of March 30th.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: This is the second
24 batch.

1 MR. BAND: Well, I think we did like
2 a five and a five. And when we discussed
3 it, we thought we will be going to May if
4 we get all these things, so we thought we'd
5 just do it in batches. That way with your
6 ongoing training, it will all kind of blend
7 in together.

8 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I said Cecelia,
9 sorry. It just hit me.

10 MS. TORRISI: That's okay. So the
11 last item that we have on the agenda is the
12 draft gaming equipment regulations, 205 CMR
13 146, which you have in your packet. Just a
14 reminder as to the process, this is the
15 first time that you are seeing these. So
16 if you approve of them today, then we can
17 put them out for informal comment just as
18 we did with the rules and regulations.
19 Following an informal comment period, we
20 can begin the formal process. As far as
21 the content of the regulations goes,
22 Mr. Band is going to address that.

23 MR. BEDROSIAN: Before they start,
24 let me just preface it with one comment,

1 which is, structurally as it exists now,
2 this is different than the rules of the
3 game which there was a decision made to do
4 an overarching regulation and then publish
5 the rules.

6 The way this is structured, the
7 table game equipment regulations are
8 promulgated just as regulations. I would
9 suggest that we ask our licensees whether
10 they have a preference and can articulate a
11 reason why. I can make an argument that,
12 geez, we should be consistent with the way
13 we promulgated our rules of the game. I
14 can understand, though, that rules of the
15 game and table game equipment, which is a
16 much more fixed component, you might not
17 need the same type of flexibility in
18 equipment.

19 So having said that, I think we
20 should ask our licensees and get the
21 feedback and we can revisit that issue with
22 you. They're good arguments on both sides.
23 But whether it's in this form as
24 promulgated regs. or as a regulation with

1 rules, this is the substance of what we are
2 suggesting.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay, good. I'm
4 glad you brought that up, because I was
5 going to make the same point.

6 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I think that's
7 a good ask we're asking for formal comment
8 on this, which is the state that we are in.
9 I wonder, though, it occurs to me that
10 changes to the rules, especially different
11 wagers and things like that would happen a
12 lot more often than say changes to
13 specifications of gaming equipment.

14 MR. BAND: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Which may lead
16 us in the current direction; is that a fair
17 statement?

18 MR. BAND: It might be we needed to
19 change it if they add certain wagers, you'd
20 have to change the layout to add a spot to
21 that wager to be made, so that would
22 probably be the main way that would affect
23 gaming equipment.

24 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: When you say

1 make a spot, does that mean --

2 MR. BAND: Like a betting circle.

3 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: So the entire
4 surface would be resurfaced with --

5 MR. BAND: Yes. It would have a new
6 one with a spot or a dragon wager or
7 something like that.

8 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: And we could
9 be in a position where we either have to
10 approve -- consider an exception to the
11 equipment regulations.

12 MR. BAND: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Or approve
14 something by emergency or amended or
15 whatnot.

16 MR. BAND: Yes. These regulations
17 address everything from how the chips are
18 approved, how gaming equipment is handled
19 and the security of it, what the
20 inspections of the equipment are prior to
21 them being used, how you destroy the
22 equipment so you can control the inventory,
23 how they keep track of the number of cards
24 they have on site, how many they put out on

1 the floor, how many they pick up at the end
2 of the night. It's a very detailed
3 process, but that's all part of game
4 security. You want to keep control of your
5 cards or dice or your tiles and all that
6 equipment.

7 MR. CAIN: Much of this process has
8 not been updated in many years, so it's
9 kind of standard for a long time.

10 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Would you
11 say that again, Burke?

12 MR. CAIN: Most of the process that
13 Bruce was just talking about is pretty much
14 standard, and we haven't had to update
15 regulations pertaining to them often at all
16 in 15, 20, 25 years.

17 MR. BAND: For the games.

18 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: For the
19 equipment.

20 MR. CAIN: Yes, for equipment,
21 security, parts of that.

22 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: So, for
23 example, I know that the shoes on dealing
24 the cards did it used to have a little --

1 the sort of briquette edges of the hair, if
2 you will, where the card comes out.

3 MR. BAND: The Harrigan access
4 plate.

5 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: How is it
6 called?

7 MR. BAND: Harrigan access plate.

8 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Excellent.
9 Would that have been a change -- would that
10 have required a change in the gaming
11 regulations?

12 MR. BAND: It would have been a
13 change to the rules and was in New Jersey
14 as well, but we did a test with it. The
15 original one actually had a little door
16 that you would push up and pull it out but
17 it would go click, click, click, click, and
18 it drove everybody crazy, so that went out
19 the door. This guy with the last name of
20 Harrigan came up with this. The original
21 one was made out of paint brush hairs that
22 he put together himself. He was a
23 blackjack dealer.

24 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Was he able to

1 patent that?

2 MR. BAND: Yes. There was one
3 casino that was trying to steal the patent
4 from him, but he ended up getting the
5 patent and fired from that casino.

6 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: He got
7 fired from the casino?

8 MR. BAND: Yes. Because he patented
9 it, and they wanted to patent it and two
10 days later he was working for another
11 property.

12 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Bruce, I
13 have a question because we've talked about
14 this. We've gone through your
15 demonstration of games, you know. I think
16 at one point you talked on the Roulette
17 table of how much distance from the edge of
18 the table to the betting areas and it's
19 more visible for people to, you know, be
20 caught capping the bet or what have you.

21 MR. BAND: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Without
23 saying, okay, we need to have four feet or
24 whatever, are we just -- is there some

1 obligation that falls to our licensee to
2 say, listen, instead of betting extravagant
3 amounts of money on a redesign table, we're
4 going to go with the risk of what the kind
5 of basic table is and understand that
6 people agree with that.

7 MR. BAND: We have an inspection
8 manual that we utilize when we do everyday
9 things like camera coverage and things for
10 everybody is doing consistently and we have
11 a minimum distance from the betting circle
12 to the rail, you know. If you get it too
13 close, people are going to cap bets or hold
14 their bets, so you have to have some
15 distance for what the design is.

16 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: But will an
17 equipment manufacturer really have all
18 those variations of the table with
19 different betting distances?

20 MR. BAND: They will do schematic
21 layouts with the licensees prior so they
22 get an opportunity to look at what the
23 distance is and everything, and hopefully
24 would share that with us at the time same

1 to see if it's something that we would
2 approve. I think in the 30 some odd years,
3 I've only denied one and that was like it
4 was 4-inches, which was ridiculous, you
5 know, for betting circles.

6 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: I just had a
7 quick question because you've shown me all
8 the promotional non-gaming chips you've
9 collected over the years. Do you have an
10 item which says, you know, chip needs to
11 bare the name of the game and the licensee
12 issuing them with language on both faces
13 saying they have no redeemable value; do
14 you often find they will put a five on the
15 chip even though it has no redeemable value
16 or why aren't we just saying you don't
17 place any value on the chip?

18 MR. BAND: Are you reading from the
19 non-value chips?

20 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes, the
21 bottom of three, top of four. Instead of
22 having it say no redeemable value, just
23 don't put any value.

24 MR. BAND: Yes, they are the

1 non-value chips. The only value that they
2 have is whatever you buy in for. So you
3 wouldn't put a five because sometimes it
4 could be 100. Sometimes it could be, you
5 know, whatever that person wanted.

6 MR. CANTELL: Non-value Roulette,
7 right?

8 MR. BAND: Yes.

9 MR. CANTELL: Non-value Roulette
10 chips will be basically just on Roulette
11 tables or it could be poker tournament
12 chips that all have no redeemable value.

13 MR. CAIN: Most of the promotional
14 chips, though, the drive for five New
15 England Patriot chip that could come out
16 would be a \$5 chip or the Ms. America chip
17 was a \$5 chip, and they became
18 collectibles. The Willie Maze had four
19 different catches and batting stances in
20 Atlantic City, and they were collectibles.

21 MR. BAND: The average outstanding
22 inventory is about \$400,000 in casino chips
23 that don't come back.

24 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Say that one

1 more time, Bruce? I'm sorry.

2 MR. BAND: The average is about
3 400,000 in outstanding inventory that the
4 casinos get to collect interest on on chips
5 that will never be redeemed, because they
6 are collectables.

7 MR. CANTELL: Commemorative chips.
8 People buy them and take them home. They
9 just want them. The cheaper it is to make
10 them --

11 MR. CAIN: There's been 25 \$100
12 collectables, right?

13 MR. CANTELL: Most of them were \$5
14 value.

15 MR. CAIN: There were \$25
16 collectibles too.

17 MR. BAND: 85 cents to a dollar per
18 chip. You are making four bucks on this.

19 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: So we're
20 going to have a new chip fixed on six.

21 MR. BAND: Yes. We'll have a Bruce
22 Stebbins chip eventually.

23 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: No, no, no,
24 no redeemable value.

1 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Are we going to
2 pass a reg. on Burke's 25-foot rule for Pai
3 Gow?

4 MR. BAND: We might sneak that in.

5 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Okay. So we're
6 ready to go on this.

7 MR. BEDROSIAN: We don't need a
8 vote.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: No action to be
10 taken. Is that it?

11 MR. BAND: Yes, thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Thank you all
13 for coming in.

14 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Thank you
15 very much.

16 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Last item is
17 number seven, Commissioner updates on our
18 various projects that we can't talk about
19 to one another without a public meeting.
20 Anybody have things? I've got -- were you
21 about to say something?

22 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes. I have
23 one quick regarding our efforts on the
24 report on the Gaming Economic development

1 Fund. Actually had a good conversation
2 with Bob DeSalvio who, prior to coming to
3 Wynn, was at Saint Bethlehem. Kind of an
4 economically challenged spot in the
5 northeast. Got some feedback from him on
6 his experience, and we have our last
7 meeting set up with the appropriate senate
8 chair I'd say within the next two weeks.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great. To get him
10 to sign-off on the project.

11 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Great. Anybody
13 else? I've got a few. I was contacted by
14 Pat Jehlen, Senator Pat Jehlen, who is the
15 senate chair -- no, is coach of the chair,
16 I guess, of the committee. The senate has
17 put together to rethink the marijuana law
18 and she asked if, first of all, just on the
19 phone whether I had thoughts about things
20 we've learned that might be relevant for
21 them as they are rethinking the marijuana
22 law.

23 And I did talk about a few things
24 like the research component, the dedicated

1 fundings for moneys for responsible gaming,
2 local control issues, mitigation moneys.
3 They are not exactly the same by a lot, but
4 they are similar. And she has asked me to
5 testify, I think, next week at the
6 committee hearing.

7 But I'm very -- any other
8 Commissioners that has any other thoughts
9 about anything that we might contribute
10 from our experience or staff for that
11 matter, you know, I'd love to have those
12 thoughts. The second --

13 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Mr.
14 Chairman, can you describe a little bit
15 more detail what she's looking for from us
16 on this or from you?

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Well, from us
18 specifically she is just looking for any
19 experience that we've had in either taking
20 our law, you know, in getting a law and
21 then turning it into an industry and into a
22 business and into an agency and do we have
23 any experience that we've had that might be
24 helpful as they are rethinking.

1 They are not going to dramatically
2 change the essential fact, which is
3 legalizing marijuana. But they may think
4 up a slightly different regulatory
5 environment. They may amend the law in
6 various ways, so any --

7 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Kind of
8 structure for the regulatory agency to
9 oversee it.

10 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Yes, for example.

11 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Mr. Chair, I
12 think we could lend some expertise just
13 best practices with investigations. I know
14 they, with the early rollout of medical,
15 there were some issues around
16 investigations. So, I think, we really
17 have a lot of expertise and really some
18 best practices that we could talk about,
19 and I'm sure Director Wells would be happy
20 to assist you with that portion of it.

21 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Well, that would
22 be great. And, you know, it's different
23 obviously from the nature of the background
24 investigations and the suitability

1 investigations that we do for casino
2 people. But the question is: What's a
3 reasonable level, you know, how would you
4 extrapolate from what we do? So if you had
5 any thoughts on that or your team had any
6 thoughts on that, I'd love that. That
7 would be really interesting. Good thought,
8 thanks.

9 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: But you
10 alluded to this, and I have actually heard
11 from Speaker DeLeo recently in a -- at a
12 breakfast that speak to this again very
13 briefly, I think, is a critical component.
14 The Public Health Trust Fund that was set
15 up here in the research, especially the
16 before and after the baseline and the look
17 back, I think, are really referred and
18 corroborated on the conferences that we go
19 that is quite unique in the gaming
20 industry. What we are doing is going to be
21 really powerful for our purposes. That
22 concept is clearly a good parallel that the
23 state could benefit from and of course the
24 open meeting --

1 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: I said to Senator
2 Jehlen that if the commission that runs the
3 marijuana law is going to be a full-time
4 commission that at least they might want to
5 address some of the issues in some general,
6 very thoughtful, careful way to not inhibit
7 those full-time commissioners as seriously
8 we were inhibited in sort of the
9 administrative side of something. She
10 heard me, but also that's a very sensitive
11 area for obvious reasons. But,
12 nevertheless, it is something I agree that
13 we can contribute.

14 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Is there
15 anything in kind of our licensing process
16 experience in terms of facilities,
17 location, local input, local hearings that
18 we conducted and things like is that
19 included in the bill or are they still
20 walking through that process?

21 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: No, I think
22 it's pretty basic. So when I talked about
23 investigations, I was actually combining
24 licensing as well, you know, licensing

1 management system, our system which, you
2 know, is really starting to work very, very
3 well would be another area in which they
4 may want to take a look at what we're doing
5 so they can really have the ability to keep
6 track of all their licensees and --

7 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Maybe adapt our
8 system possibly.

9 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Well, that
10 would be something they should come in and
11 take if -- when and if the new commission
12 is up -- when, not if -- when it's up and
13 running, that would be I think something we
14 could assist that new commission with.

15 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: I was
16 referring more to our licensing process in
17 terms of site selection.

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Oh, the big
19 licenses.

20 COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Yes, the big
21 licenses, site selection, local, you know,
22 approval, you know, the public hearing
23 process that we went through.

24 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: There is something

1 in the bill about that now. And because I
2 have -- some communities have already said
3 that wasn't medical marijuana, but that is
4 a good point. I should look and see what
5 there is there.

6 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I think
7 some communities have already voted not to
8 have any facilities.

9 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Not just medical?

10 MS. BLUE: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Right. And
12 they are not sure that will stand up to a
13 challenge, but they are taking a proactive
14 step.

15 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Well, certainly
16 the local control and the community
17 mitigation elements of our statute and our
18 process has been huge, so those are good.
19 I'll follow up on those too.

20 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: I think we
21 can have very significant helpful input if
22 they are open to our experience.

23 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: The new
24 commission.

1 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: The new
2 commission, yes.

3 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Well, there is two
4 levels. First of all, it's in the drafting
5 of the bill are there things we think ought
6 to be in the bill; and then secondly is
7 when the agency is up and running for sure,
8 I think we could share a lot of experience
9 with the staff and the commissioners.

10 COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Is there a
11 pending bill or is there a draft bill at
12 this point?

13 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: No. They are just
14 reviewing the referendum that passed and --
15 well, they've already amended it slightly,
16 right; didn't they postpone the start date?

17 MS. BLUE: To extend the start date.

18 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: So they are
19 considering whether to have other changes
20 in the statute. Any other thoughts? Then
21 the last one I was at, as was Commissioner
22 Zuniga, a Greater Boston Chamber of
23 Commerce public affairs breakfast where
24 Speaker DeLeo spoke and I was sitting near

1 a fellow named Paul Paranova, who is the
2 codirector of the MIT government community
3 affairs office and he is blind and he said
4 to me, you know, "Why don't you people
5 think about having some kind of
6 voice-activated EGMs, slots so that people
7 who are visually impaired could play as
8 well."

9 It reminded me that oddly enough
10 casinos are one of the few places where
11 people in wheelchairs, for example, can
12 easily go because there is big, wide aisles
13 and lots of people in wheelchairs find
14 this -- so people with other disabilities
15 already find this, you know, an interesting
16 exercise. So I thought that was an
17 interesting idea. I have no idea what the
18 technology would consist of.

19 I spoke to -- well there's another
20 issue I have to get to. I meant to do it
21 in a different sequence. I spoke to Steve
22 Wynn, the head of Wynn Resorts about
23 something else, which I will tell you about
24 in a minute about because he is

1 visually-impaired and he jumped at it and
2 thought it was really interesting and
3 wanted to speak to Paul, the guy from MIT.
4 They have spoken.

5 Paul is meeting with Bob DeSalvio,
6 so they are going to put together sort of a
7 skunkworks with a manufacturer with some
8 people that MIT has in the
9 voice-recognition world and flush it out.
10 We may or may not be a part of that sort of
11 little working group, but there are a
12 number of parties now, including one very
13 significant player in the industry who
14 thought it was a really interesting idea.
15 So we will see where that goes.

16 COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Very good.

17 CHAIRMAN CROSBY: And then the last
18 one was the reason I was speaking to Wynn
19 is because he called me to clarify, and
20 this is an important point, at the
21 committee hearing that we had of the
22 legislative commission on online gaming and
23 DFS his staff, Jacqui Krum, took the
24 position on behalf of Wynn that Wynn

1 Resorts itself was not at all interested in
2 online gaming. It didn't fit with their
3 kind of business strategy, their culture,
4 their sense of customer service, customer
5 relations, customer experience. But that
6 if there were online gaming made legal,
7 they would want it to be attached
8 exclusively to bricks-and-mortar casinos.

9 Wynn called to say that his personal
10 opinion is not that. That he is going to
11 be strongly against online gaming. He is
12 going to team up with Shelly Ailson and
13 take the position that online gambling is a
14 bad idea, and he wanted me to know that was
15 his position.

16 And, also, just not -- because we
17 have been sort of implicitly, not
18 explicitly, but implicitly kind of
19 supportive of it by suggesting a regulatory
20 environment, which it might be addressed,
21 he just wanted to make sure he didn't get
22 out-of-sync with us or not stumble over
23 different opinions. So that was another
24 piece of background, which I've also now

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

conveyed back to the legislative committee.

Anything else? Do I have a motion?

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Move to
adjourn.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: I second that.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: All in favor?
Aye.

COMMISSIONER CAMERON: Aye.

COMMISSIONER MACDONALD: Aye.

COMMISSIONER ZUNIGA: Aye.

COMMISSIONER STEBBINS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN CROSBY: Opposed? The ayes
have it unanimously.

(Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.)

1 MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION STAFF:

2 Catherine Blue, General Counsel

3 Edward Bedrosian, Executive Director

4 John Ziemba, Ombudsman

5 Alexandra Lightbown, Racing Division

6 Doug O'Donnell, Senior Financial Analyst

7 Carrie Torrisi, Staff Attorney

8 Bruce Band, Investigation and Enforcement Bureau

9 Burke Cain, Investigation and Enforcement Bureau

10 Eric Cantell

11 Angela Smith

12 Jay Lindroos

13 Sterl Carpenter

14 Michael Sangalang, Digital Communications

15 Coordinator

16
17 GUEST SPEAKERS:

18 George Brown, Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders

19 Association

20 Anthony Zizza, Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders

21 Association

22 Chip Tuttle, CEO of Suffolk Downs

23 Steve O'Toole, General Manager, Plainridge Park

24

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

I, KRISTEN M. EDWARDS, COURT REPORTER,
do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcription of my stenographic notes,
to the best of my knowledge and ability.

WITNESS MY HAND, this 21st day of
March, 2017.

Kristen M. Edwards