



---

## Local Community Mitigation Advisory Committee Region A Meeting Minutes

---

**Date/Time:** November 7, 2018 – 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Massachusetts Gaming Commission  
101 Federal Street, Floor 12  
Boston, MA 02110

### Members

#### Present:

Richard Caraviallo, Chair	Paul Sheehan
Eric Bourassa	John DePriest
Ron Hogan	Fred Berman
Colin Kelly	David Bancroft
Maria Galazka	Vincent Panzini
Mayra Negron-Rivera	

### Members

**Absent:** Alexis Tkachuk

#### Attendees:

John Ziemba	Mary Thurlow
Joe Delaney	Bruce Stebbins
Catherine Rollins	Windy Pham
Shara Bedard	

### Call to Order

2:00 p.m. The Chair called the 8<sup>th</sup> Local Community Mitigation Advisory Committee (LCMAC) Region A meeting to order and thanked all those in attendance.

Massachusetts Gaming Commission (Commission) Ombudsman Mr. John Ziemba thanked Colin Kelly for his past participation on the LCMAC and welcomed the new members appointed by the Commission.

The new representative from the Everett Chamber of Commerce is Vincent Panzini, and the new Regional Economic Development representative is David Bancroft. Mr. Ziemba asked everyone to introduce themselves and state the community they represent, as there are new members present. Mr. Ziemba then noted that this committee is still seeking another Human Service Provider representative for the region.

## **Approval of Minutes**

- 2:05 p.m. *A motion was made to approve the minutes from the LCMAC Region A meeting of November 15, 2017. John DePriest, representing Chelsea seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.*

## **Election of Chair and Representative of the Subcommittee on Community Mitigation**

- 2:06 p.m. Mr. Ziemba called for the annual votes for the Chair of the LCMAC Region A and the LCMAC member to the Subcommittee on Community Mitigation. Richard Caraviello, representing Medford volunteered to continue as the Chair of the Region A LCMAC.

Mr. Ziemba then stated that each region is represented in the Subcommittee on Community Mitigation by a member of its LCMAC and that Ron Hogan, representing Malden had volunteered to continue to serve on the Subcommittee on Community Mitigation.

- 2:07 p.m. *A motion was made to re-elect Richard Caraviello as the Chair of the Local Community Mitigation Advisory Committee for Region A. Mr. DePriest seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.*

*It was further moved to elect Ron Hogan as Region A representative for the Community Mitigation Advisory Subcommittee. Mr. DePriest seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.*

## **Review of Draft 2019 Guidelines**

- 2:08 p.m. Mr. Ziemba noted the predominant purpose of this meeting is to solicit comments for the 2019 Guidelines to the Community Mitigation Funds. The Commission plans to finalize the Guidelines during its November 29th meeting. Therefore, today's discussion is very timely.

Mr. Ziemba stated that the deadline for submission of the 2019 Guidelines to the Commission is the Monday before Thanksgiving. He asked if there should be more flexibility in the deadline for submitting applications to the Commission. February 1<sup>st</sup>, being a statutory, hard deadline, would require consulting with the legislature to change it to a closer date to when the impacts occur.

Ron Hogan remarked that some communities might be dissuaded from some mitigation work because they are unaware of the potential for reimbursement. Mr. Ziemba stated that the Commission is working on

deadline flexibility. It was suggested that the LCMAC could solicit for feedback from communities regarding deadlines.

Mr. Ziemba reviewed the draft guidelines with the members. He addressed the proposal that has also been discussed by the Region B LCMAC of splitting the fund between regions A and B. He described the amount of funds to potentially be distributed when dividing license fees equally.

Fred Berman, representing Somerville asked if the amounts distributed would be disproportionate between regions. Mr. Ziemba explained the analysis that was conducted by the Commission regarding distribution. He suggested that the Commission should try to meet the target spending amount as close as possible under this proposal and try to implement a true-up for the following year, if actual spending varied from the targets.

The committee discussed a proposal concerning the duration of the funds remaining within a region if actual grant spending is below projected spending levels. A concern was raised regarding funds potentially being held within regions and not divided equally, and the potential impacts.

Mr. Ziemba addressed whether the 2019 CMF should be used for the cost of transportation construction projects. He explained that the Community Mitigation Fund does finance design projects, but not transportation construction projects. Mr. Ziemba recommended that the Community Mitigation Fund not pay for the cost of construction in 2019 because the Commission is still awaiting results from traffic impact studies, and need to assess the need for new roads.

Next, Mr. Ziemba summarized the Federal Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (“BUILD”) discretionary grant program for the pedestrian bridge project between Everett and Somerville. The BUILD program enables the Department of Transportation to use a rigorous merit-based process to select projects with exceptional benefits, explore ways to deliver projects faster and save on construction costs and make needed investments in infrastructure. Rural and urban areas are eligible for this grant. The goal for the Commission is to generate more interest in utilizing the MBTA or walking across the bridge instead of driving.

Maria Galazka, representing Everett, is in favor of the bridge project, stating it would take less than ten minutes to cross the bridge and would help with resident commutes. Mr. Ziemba noted that this project is a priority for the Commission. Regional Planning Agency representative Eric Bourassa stated that if traffic impacts are more significant than anticipated, the Commission can require the casinos to put more money into transportation.

Mr. Ziembra addressed public safety funding and operational-related impacts. There was a discussion around housing, and funds going to the DA's office. The Chair suggested that we take more time to gather information regarding impacts before taking any action.

Mr. Ziembra then explained the studies being conducted on behalf of the Commission. He stated that the Community Mitigation Fund would like to continue to recognize regional efforts with funding. Last year, the Commission created non-transportation planning funds for groups of area businesses.

There was a discussion around providing technical assistance to businesses, and Mr. Ziembra stated that the Commission is hoping the assistance is broad-based and not focused on any one small business.

Solicitation for applications to the Community Mitigation Fund will open on December 6, 2018, and close on February 1, 2019. A decision will be made by June 2019.

### **Ethics Presentation**

3:00 p.m. The Chair introduced the Ethics presentation by Todd Grossman, Deputy General Counsel of the Gaming Commission. Counsel Grossman instructed committee members through a PowerPoint slide packet explaining their status as Special State Employees. Counsel Grossman then reviewed ethical obligations under the statute and asked for any questions.

### **Next Steps**

3:35 p.m. The Chair asked Mr. Ziembra if Region A subcommittee should meet again before the end of the year. It was decided that the subcommittee would meet in the first part of 2019.

3:37 p.m. *There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.*

### **List of Documents and Other Items Used**

1. Notice of meeting and agenda, posted February 1, 2019
2. Membership List of the Public Safety Subcommittee Members
3. Meeting Minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting
4. State Ethics Commission Documents
5. Membership of Gaming Policy Advisory Committees (Structure Chart)
6. M.G.L. c. 23K § 6

/s/ Shara N. Bedard  
Secretary