



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: December 8, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. EST

Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5292
MEETING ID: 112 680 4014

Call to Order

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order agenda setting meeting #113 of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (“Commission”).

The Chair confirmed a quorum for the meeting by roll call. The following Commissioners were present for the meeting:

*Chair Cathy Judd-Stein
Commissioner Gayle Cameron
Commissioner Eileen O’Brien
Commissioner Bradford R. Hill*

Agenda Planning for Upcoming Commission Meetings

The Commission discussed the anticipated agendas for the upcoming Commission meeting scheduled for December 16, 2021, and subsequent meetings described in the attached agenda planning notes, as follows:

Item #1 – Administrative Update

Add-on Item – Executive Director Wells asked to add an item for a staff recognition for a staff member’s departure.

Executive Director Wells stated that existing items for discussion are to include: (1) Mr. Bruce Band speaking on casino operations; (2) Return to Work Update (Hybrid Work Policy). *Ms. Wells posed the idea of having the Hybrid Work Policy being its own agenda item on the meeting’s agenda as there is a larger discussion set to occur. Ms. Wells deferred to the preference of Chair Judd Stein. Chair Judd Stein agreed that it would be best to put it out separately as its own item to occur with a vote.* (3) Administrative update from the Voluntary Self Exclusion (VSE) Rollout and the new app on 12/16 from Director of Research and Responsible Gaming Mark Vander Linden.

Add-on Item – Chair Judd-Stein wanted to formally recognize and welcome two new MGC employees.

Item #2 – Regulations– General Counsel Grossman indicated there are not any regulations or other legal matters in need of public review by the Commission. Ms. Torrissi confirmed there are no new regulations to discuss, just the one set of regulations to go before the Commission for next week’s public meeting (listed below in Item #4.) Ms. Torrissi confirmed that paper copies of the regulations would be provided at the meeting.

Item #3 – Suitability Review Process – Chair Judd-Stein and Commissioner O’Brien will discuss the Suitability Process on December 16th with General Counsel Grossman, Director of the Investigations and Enforcement Bureau (IEB), Loretta Lillios, Licensing Division Chief Nakisha Skinner, as well as Ms. Heather Hall.

Item #4 –Regulatory Review Process– Ms. Wells confirmed that a brief overview be discussed in addition to the Administrative Update in Agenda Item 1 on 12/16. Regulations mentioned by Ms. Torrissi in item #1, [205 CMR 134.01: Key Gaming Employees](#), [205 CMR 134.02: Gaming Employees](#), will also be discussed by herself and Counsel Grossman.

Item #5 – Legislative Updates– *(Transcriber’s Note: Chair Judd Stein discussed this item after Item #2)* Ms. Howard confirmed that a Legislative update will occur on 12/16 with Commissioner Hill, Mr. Grossman, and Chair Judd-Stein.

Add-on Item – Return to Work– Ms. Wells stated that Commissioner Cameron and Commissioner O’Brien will lead discussion on this agenda item on 12/16.

Item #6 – GPAC and Subcommittees Annual Update– Ms. Howard confirmed that the chair of GPAC and its Subcommittee chairs will be in attendance and will provide a brief update on 12/16. Ms. Howard confirmed this item is set to go before the Commission, with Commissioner Hall providing discussion as well.

Additional Items for 12/16 Meeting:

Add on-Item– Racing Updates– Director of Racing Dr. Alexandra Lightbown, confirmed many different agenda items for Racing are ready to move forward to the meeting’s agenda on 12/16. All of which will require votes:

- Plainridge Park Casino would like to provide an updated schedule for 2022, Steve O’Toole from Plainridge Park Casino will attend.
- Suffolk Downs Simulcast Request for Premium Free Period for both 2021 and 2022, Chip Tuttle, from Suffolk Downs will attend.
- Suffolk Downs Simulcast Locations.
- Suffolk Downs Account Wagering Providers

Add on-Item– Licensing Division Updates– Division Chief Skinner stated that Division has received a Registration Exemption Request from MGM Springfield, which will require a vote,

and a Gaming Beverage License Amendment Request which will require a vote. Ms. Skinner estimated discussion time to be roughly 20 minutes.

Community Affairs Division Updates– Division Chief Delaney stated his division has a request from the City of Everett to repurpose a prior grant awarded to them by MGC that they'd like to discuss, which will require a vote. Mr. Delaney estimated discussion time to be roughly 15 minutes.

Items For Future Meetings – Under Review

Before beginning this section, Chair Judd Stein confirmed with Ms. Howard that the Next Agenda Setting Meeting is January 5, 2022, and the next Public Meeting has been moved from January 13, 2022, to January 12, 2022.

Add-on Item – Procurement Process Review– Ms. Wells wanted to add an item to the January 12, meeting or sometime thereafter for review of the Procurement Process, and to provide an update to the Commission.

Add-on Item – Community Affairs Division- Applications for Funding Review – Division Chief Delaney stated his department are working with various communities for submission of applications for funds before the end of the year and is expecting that there could be some applications for discussions in early January up for review and will require a vote for approval.

Item # 7 – Responsible Gaming Framework Follow Up – Director Vander Linden requested to keep this item under review at this time.

Item # 8 – Review of Casino Non-Compliance Penalties – Ms. Lillios, Ms. Hall, and Mr. Grossman will review this process on January 27, 2022.

Item #9 – ILEV Review Process – Chair Judd-Stein confirmed that this item will remain under review with Mr. Delaney, Mr. Grossman, and Commissioner Hill.

Item #10 – MA Cultural Council Report – Chair Judd-Stein confirmed that this item will remain under review for the time being.

Item #11 – Gambling Advertising – Mr. Vander Linden confirmed that either January 27th or the following meeting or February 10th would be optimal dates for discussion.

Item #12 – Executive Director Annual Review – Commissioner O'Brien confirmed that the review will occur on January 27.

Item #13 – DUI Report – Director Vander Linden requested that more time may be needed to ensure that their Lead Researcher and presenter can find the necessary time in their schedule to attend. Requested that this item may need to be held for January 27th or February 10th.

Item #14 – Covid Impacts Report - Director Vander Linden confirmed that this will be discussed on January 27.

Additional Items for Under Review:

Add-On Item – Racing Division Quarterly Local Aid Payment – Dr. Lightbown confirmed she would like to add the item to January 27th meeting.

Add-On Item – Racing Division- Recovery of Unpaid Winning Tickets from each Track– Dr. Lightbown confirmed she would like to add the item to January 27th Meeting for discussion.

Add-On Item – Chair Judd-Stein inquired about the date of the Town Hall and Ms. Wells asked if Commissioners had any conflicts for later in the month of December. Ms. Wells confirmed that an invitation and final date would be circulated soon.

Having no further business, Commissioner Cameron made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Notice of Meeting and Agenda dated December 6, 2021
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Agenda Planning Notes
3. 205 CMR 134.01: *Key Gaming Employees* and 205 CMR 134.02: *Gaming Employees*