



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: April 15, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5292
PARTICIPANT CODE: 112 385 0036

Present:

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein	Bruce Band
Commissioner Gayle Cameron	Trupti Banda
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien	Katrina Jagroop-Gomes
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins	Derek Lennon
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga	Jill Griffin
Karen Wells	Loretta Lillios
Todd Grossman	Bill Curtis
Mark Vander Linden	Alexandra Lightbown
Joe Delaney	Elaine Driscoll

Call to Order

10:00 a.m. Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order the 75th Agenda-Setting meeting. Given the unprecedented circumstances resulting from the global Coronavirus pandemic, Governor Charles Baker issued an order to provide limited relief from certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law to protect the health and safety of individuals interested in attending public meetings. In keeping with the guidance provided, the Commission will conduct a public meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology.

The Chair confirmed a quorum for the meeting by Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.
Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.
Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.
Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.
Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.

On behalf of the Commission, the Chair thanked all Commission staff for their successful efforts in collaborating remotely. She also extended gratitude to the state's leadership, public health experts, medical personnel, first responders, military, and others for the measures they are taking with regard to public health and safety.

Next, Commissioner Cameron announced the promotion of Massachusetts State Police Lieutenant Tim Babbin of the Gaming Enforcement Unit to the rank of Detective Lieutenant. The Commissioners all extended their congratulations to him and stated that he will be missed.

Approval of Minutes

10:08 a.m. *Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes from the Agenda Setting Meeting of March 25, 2020, subject to correction for typographical errors or other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.*

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.

Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Chair Judd-Stein: Yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Planning for Upcoming Commission Meetings

(Scheduled Commission Meeting on April 23rd)

Item #1 – Administrative Update. Ms. Wells will have an administrative update.

Item #2 – Regulations. There will be two items brought to the Commission at this scheduled Commission meeting. The first will be a memo that pertains to **205 CMR 134.00: Licensing** and the potential for the extension of the prescribed term for renewal of licenses for vendors and employees in response to the closure of casinos during the pandemic. licensing and registration of vendors and employees at the casinos. The second will be a discussion concerning a new regulation in response to the circumstances created by this pandemic, **205 CMR 109.01: Authority of the Commission to act in an Emergency Situation.** The regulation will provide clarity as to the Commission's authority to call for emergency action in the event of an emergency or natural disaster, as well as for what to expect, and what the process would be.

(Potential Commission Meeting on May 7th)

Item #3 – Plainridge Park Racecourse 2020 Live Racing Kick-Off. Dr. Lightbown will provide the Commission with an update on live racing at Plainridge Park Racecourse.

Item #4 – Wynn Independent Monitor 6-Month Baseline Report. The Chair will have this item ready for discussion.

(Under Review)

Item #5 – Workforce Development Grant Update. This item will be placed under review.

Item #6 – Massachusetts Cultural Mitigation Program RFP Update. This item will be placed under review for the present time, until grants are awarded.

Item #7 – Licensee Sexual Harassment Policies Discussion. This item will be placed under review for the present time. Commissioner O'Brien stated that this would be ready for May 21st.

Item #8 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel. This item will be placed under review for the present time.

Item #9 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Waiver of Qualifying Race Requirement. This item will be placed under review for the present time.

Item # 10 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Promotional Fund Consideration. This item will be placed under review for the present time.

Item #11 – Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts (SOM) Recognition Request as Breeder's Representative Group. This item will be placed under review for the present time.

Item #12 – PPC Handicapping Promotion Fund Use. This item can be deleted, as it is duplicative of item #10.

Item #13 – GameSense Impact Report. This item is in process and will commence when casino operations resume.

Item #14 – Play My Way at Cat. 1 Update. This item will be placed under review for the present time. They are requesting a delay of one year. Mr. Vander Linden will combine item #'s 14 and 15 to discuss plans of launch at a later date, for the April 23rd meeting.

Item #15 – Encore Request to Delay Launch of PlayMyWay. See above.

Item #16 – Data Storage & Access Report – Demo – Research Page on Website. This item will be placed under review for the present time, as the launch is now delayed.

Item #17 – Update Section 97 – Data Report. This item will be placed under review for the present time.

Item #18 – Review of MGC Enhanced Code of Ethics Update. This item is currently under review.

Item #19 – Workforce & Vendor Reporting Template. This item is currently under review.

Item #20 – Everett 6 Month Public Safety Report. This item is in process and Mr. Vander Linden recommends that this item be on the agenda for May 7th.

Item #21 – Compliance Items Update. This item will be placed under review for the present time until casino operations resume. Commissioners will establish items to be reviewed on a regular basis.

Item #22 – New England Gaming Market Update. This item is currently under review. This item will now include data on casino closures in the analysis.

Item #23 – Quarterly Reports. These reports would be for first quarter, Jan, Feb, March. These can be augmented reports, with emphasis on what the casinos looked like just prior to the closures. This item is tentative for the Commission meeting on May 21st.

Item #24 – Community Mitigation Update. The Community Mitigation team should have their recommendation for the Commissioners consideration by the end of June. In connection to this, Commissioner Zuniga would like to add discussion regarding the revenue fund and the impact of the casino closures on it. He would like have an initial discussion at the first meeting in June 4th and the more substantive discussion at the second meeting on June 18th.

Item #25 – Gaming Economic Development Fund White Paper Update. This item will be taken off of the agenda until further notice.

Item #26 – Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association (MTBA) Request to Race at Finger Lakes. This item will be ready potentially for the Commission meeting of May 7th. This item will provide clarity on what the racing season may look like.

Added item: Budget Discussion for FY21 Commissioner Zuniga and Mr. Lennon will have this item in for the June 4th Commission meeting.

10:58 a.m. *Having no further business, Commissioner Stebbins made a motion to adjourn.*

Commissioner zuniga seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Cameron: Aye.

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.

Commissioner Stebbins: 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 March 23, 2020
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Agenda Planning Notes, dated April 13, 2020
3. Meeting Minutes of the March 25, 2020 Agenda Setting meeting

/s/ Bruce Stebbins

Secretary