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## Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

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**Date/Time:** April 28, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

**Place:** VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293  
PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 162 8203

### Call to Order

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order the 100th Agenda-Setting meeting. She noted that given the unprecedented circumstances resulting from the global Coronavirus pandemic, Governor 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 conducted this public meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology.

*The Chair confirmed a quorum for the meeting by Roll Call. The following Commissioners were in attendance:*

*Commissioner Cameron*

*Commissioner O'Brien*

*Commissioner Zuniga*

*Chair Judd-Stein*

### Approval of Agenda Setting Minutes

*Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve agenda setting meeting minutes from April 14, 2021, subject to correction for typographical errors and other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Commissioner Cameron      Aye*

*Commissioner O'Brien      Aye*

*Commissioner Zuniga      Aye*

*Chair Judd-Stein      Aye*

*The motion passed unanimously.*

### Agenda Planning for Upcoming Commission Meetings

*The Commission discussed the anticipated agenda for the upcoming Commission meeting scheduled for May 6, 2021 and subsequent meetings as described in the attached agenda planning notes, as follows:*

**Item #1 – Administrative Update-** Executive Director Wells stated that she had three matters to present before the Commission. (1) Introduction of a new Research Manager that will be working alongside Mark Vander Linden in responsible gaming; (2) Update from Mark Vander Linden, Director of Research and Responsible Gaming, relative to his work in Singapore; and (3)



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The traditional onsite casino update from Assistant IEB Director and Gaming Agents Chief Bruce Band, and IEB Director Loretta Lillios

Item #2 – Regulations- General Counsel Grossman indicated there are not any regulations or other legal matters in need of public review by the Commission at this time.

Item #3 – Legislative Updates- Director of Diversity and Legislative Affairs Griffin indicated there were not any new updates to report.

Item #4 –MGM Gaming Beverage License Amendment 205 CMR 134.03(1)(b)– Licensing Division Chief, Nakisha Skinner, stated this item will be ready for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and will require a vote.

Item #5 –MGM Service Employee Exemption Request 205 CMR 136.03(1)- Ms. Skinner also stated this item is also ready to go before the Commission.

Item #6- Reg. Blackjack Table; Card Reader Device; Physical Characteristics; Inspections- Associate General Counsel, Carrie Torrisi, stated this item will be ready go before the Commission on the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting for a vote to finalize the promulgation to process including the small business impact statement.

Item #7 –Racehorse Development Fund Benefits for Drivers and Jockeys- Director of Racing, Dr. Alexandra Lightbown, stated this item should be moved to the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to give the interested parties additional time to prepare their documents, and this topic may require two by twos. There was a posting made for the submission of public comments and the deadline for that is May 18, 2021. This item will require a vote.

Item #8-Quarterly Local Aid Payments – Dr. Lightbown stated this item will be ready for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Item #9- MGM Quarterly Report – Community Affairs Division Chief, Joe Delaney, stated that he was in communication with MGM Springfield, and they were all set to go before the Commission for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Item #10 – Community Mitigation Fund Application Reviews – Transportation Planning & Construction – Mr. Delaney stated he will have ten applications ready for review for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and that his team will be putting a memorandum together providing an overview of the applications. It is anticipated that four specific impact grants, some transportation, and some community planning grant applications will be ready for review.

Chair Judd-Stein stated that this will complete the category of public safety applications and as discussed at the last public meeting, the Commissioners will be voting by category. Mr. Delaney added that at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and at the May 20 meeting there will likely be applications from the three categories presented.

Chair Judd-Stein suggested this item be put this at the end of the agenda so that if it goes longer than anticipated that this item can roll over into the next public meeting.

Item #11- Quarterly Budget Update – CFAO, Derek Lennon, stated this item is ready for the Commission for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Item #12 – Regulation Review Update – Commissioner Zuniga requested that this item be scheduled for the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Item #13 – Update on Tribal Matters – Mashpee Litigation – Martha’s Vineyard Tribal Litigation Associate General Counsel, Caitlin Monahan, stated this item is ready for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Add-On Item- Ms. Lillios stated that the IEB has completed that background review of a qualifier for Plainridge Park Casino that is ready for Commission review.

Future meetings

Item #14- Recognition Request of Standardbred Owners of MA as Breeder’s Representative – Dr. Lightbown stated this item will be ready by May 20<sup>th</sup> and will require a vote.

Item#15- 2021 Harness Meet Update- Dr. Lightbown stated that this item will be ready for an update to the Commission on May 20.

Item#16- Encore and PPC Quarterly Report and Item#21- PPC Capital Plan- Mr. Delaney stated these items are ready to be presented before the Commission. This item will be placed at the end of the agenda so that an executive session relative to PPC’s plan may be reviewed by the Commission.

Item#17- Community Mitigation Fund Application Reviews- Mr. Delaney stated this item can stay under review.

Item#18- Public Records Process and Item#19- NDA Discussion- General Counsel Grossman stated the public records review should be ready by the 20<sup>th</sup> and it is being incorporated with item 19.

Item#20- Police Reform Bill- Commissioner O’Brien stated we should add Ms. Torrasi to this item, and we can keep this item for the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting for right now.

Item#22- MGC Employee and Vendor Diversity- Ms. Wells asked to keep the same dates in June and December for presentation of this item.

Item#23- Budget Discussion- Mr. Lennon stated the budget discussion should be ready for the first meeting in June and then a vote should be ready for the second meeting in June.

Item#24- Request to Amend PPC Racing COVID Plan to Allow Up to 3 Owners in Winners Circle- Dr. Lightbown stated this item can stay under review.

Item#25- Responsible Gaming Framework Follow-Up- Mr. Vander Linden stated this item should stay under review.

Item#26- Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association request for consultation- Dr. Lightbown stated this item can stay under review.

Joe Delaney suggested adding a place holder for the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting for the Community Mitigation Fund application reviews.

Ms. Wells added, given that the Covid protocols are starting to change as things are getting better, she anticipates putting a working group together on the protocols and at some point, come before the Commission for a discussion. The Chair suggested that this be done in coordination with the licensees as well.

Chair Judd-Stein suggested we should keep IAGR conference on the notes chart so that we can keep track of it. Commissioner Cameron stated there are no new updates since the last update. A lot of internal work involving the assembly of panels is underway, but nothing substantive to update on yet.

*Having no further business, Commissioner Zuniga moved to adjourn the meeting.*

*Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion.*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Commissioner Cameron: Aye.*

*Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.*

*Commissioner Zuniga: 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 April 26, 2021
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Agenda Planning Notes