



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: April 29, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293
PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 527 6445

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
Chad Bourque	

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.

The Chair made remarks regarding the current status of the COVID-19 pandemic. She thanked all medical workers on the front lines, state and local leadership, and the Commission team for all of their hard work and for doing their part during this time.

Approval of Minutes

10:08 a.m. *Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes from the Agenda Setting Meeting of April 15, 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 May 7th)

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

Item #2 – Regulations. Mr. Grossman stated that there are potentially three regulations to be brought before the Commission at this meeting. The first is a regulation amendment regarding the use of sealed and expunged records in investigations, and second is a regulation amendment regarding the Voluntary Self-Exclusion program. Both are ready for final Commission review and adoption. He commented that there was a public hearing for these regulations, where there were some written public comments as well as attendees who made comments that should be discussed at the Commission meeting.

The third is a new draft regulation up for initial review and approval; 205 CMR 109.01: Authority of the Commission to act in an Emergency Situation. Commissioner O'Brien stated that this should be ready for this Commission meeting. She noted that comments were received from all three licensees.

Item #3 – Plainridge Park Racecourse 2020 Live Racing Update. Dr. Lightbown stated that there is a meeting scheduled with the horsemen this Friday to discuss the Governor's Order extending the closure of all non-essential businesses until May 18th. This item will be to discuss the postponement of the scheduled June 1st re-opening of Plainridge Park Racecourse.

Item #4 – Wynn Independent Monitor 6-Month Baseline Report. This item will remain under review at this time.

Item #5 – Everett 6 Month Public Safety Report. Mr. Vander Linden can have this item ready to present to the Commission. He will have the final report with the executive summary to the Commission as soon as possible.

Item #6 – Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association (MTBA) Request to Race at Finger Lakes. Dr. Lightbown would like to leave this as tentative for May 7th.

Added Item: Quarterly Local Aid Payments to Cities and Towns. Chad Bourque will present this item to the Commission for a vote.

Added Item: Suitability Determination for MGM Qualifier. Ms. Lillios will send this information to the Commission for a vote.

(Potential Commission Meeting on May 21st)

Item #7 – Licensee Sexual Harassment Policies Discussion. Commissioners Cameron and O'Brien can have this item ready for this meeting.

Item #8 – Quarterly Reports. This item will be discussed at the May 7th Commission meeting. Mr. Grossman reviewed the statute with the Commission, stating that quarterly financial reports are required. He noted the variance process that would allow the Commission to modify the process if necessary. He noted that they can take a look at specific provisions of the regulations as well. Mr. Delaney spoke with Encore and MGM regarding this issue. They are asking that reports are kept to minimum required information that not be made public at this time. Mr. Delaney suggested deferring this report until casinos are open.

This item will be on the agenda for Thursday and the statutory and regulatory requirements for quarterly reports will be discussed, as well as any information that should be included in light of the current circumstances.

(Potential Commission Meeting on June 4th)

Item #9 – Community Mitigation Update. This update will be ready to present on May 21st. The final recommendations will be ready to present to the Commission for a vote on the grants at the June 18th Commission meeting, and potentially schedule a subsequent meeting to vote on all 37 applications.

Item # 10 – Budget Discussion – Year 2021. This item will be ready as a discussion.

(Under Review)

Item #11 – Workforce Development Grant Update. This item will remain under review for the present time.

Item #12 – MA Cultural Mitigation Program RFP Update. This item can potentially be ready to present on June 4th.

Item #13 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel. This item is under review

Item #14 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Waiver of Qualifying Race Requirement. This item is under review.

Item #15 – Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Promotional Fund Consideration. This item is under review.

Item #16 – Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts (SOM) Recognition Request as Breeder’s Representative Group. This item is under review.

Item #17 – GameSense Impact Report. This item is under review.

Item #18 – Data Storage & Access Report – Demo – Research Page on Website. This item is under review.

Item #19 – Update Section 97 – Data Report. This item is under review.

Item #20 – Review of MGC Enhanced Code of Ethics Update. The Chair suggests that this item is on the agenda for the June 18th Commission meeting.

Item #21 – Workforce & Vendor Reporting Template. This item is under review.

Item #22 – Compliance Items Update. This item is under review.

Item #23 – New England Gaming Market Update. This item is under review.

10:55 a.m. *Having no further business, Commissioner Stebbins made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cameron 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 April 29, 2020
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Agenda Planning Notes, dated April 29, 2020
3. Meeting Minutes of the April 15, 2020 Agenda Setting meeting

/s/ Bruce Stebbins
Secretary