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## Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

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**Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 10:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Massachusetts Gaming Commission  
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293  
PARTICIPANT CODE: 112 113 8070

**Commissioners and Senior Staff Present:**

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein  
Commissioner Gayle Cameron  
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien  
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga

**Call to Order**

10:01 a.m. Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order the 101<sup>st</sup> 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 conducted this meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology.

All four commissioners were present for the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

10:02 a.m. *Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve the minutes from the agenda setting meeting of April 28, 2021, subject to correction for typographical errors or other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner Zuniga 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 following items were discussed relevant to the upcoming Commission meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021:*

### Item #1 – Administrative Update

Executive Director Karen Wells explained that for items that need to be voted upon, any accompanying material should be turned into Lead Executive Assistant Maryann Dooley by the previous Monday. She then made note of the upcoming Communications Division update at the next meeting along with the usual update from Gaming Agents Chief Bruce Band and Director of the IEB Loretta Lillios on casino operations. Commissioner Zuniga suggested that Director of Racing Dr. Alexandra Lightbown present to the Commission on best racing practices in light of recent events. Chair Judd-Stein noted she had already asked Dr. Lightbown to speak.

### Item #2 – Regulations

General Counsel Todd Grossman informed the Commission that there will be no updates for the next meeting.

### Item #3 – Legislative Updates

Director of Diversity and Legislative Affairs Jill Griffin informed the Commission that she has no updates. Chair Judd-Stein wondered if it would be a good idea to expand Community Mitigation Fund (“CMF”) application eligibility to communities who want to capitalize on the presence of casinos. Commissioner Zuniga noted that the CMF review team already unofficially does that. Ms. Griffin added that they keep that in mind for workforce development grants. It was decided that the Commission would discuss this subject fully at a later date.

### Item #4 – Regulation Review Update

Commissioner Zuniga will be ready to present for the meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Item #5 – Race Horse Development Fund Benefits for Drivers and Jockeys

Dr. Lightbown mentioned that her memorandum for this issue may not be available until a bit later than ideal ahead of the meeting, as she wanted to incorporate public comments and official documents from the Jockey’s Guild and the New England Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (“HBPA”). Commissioner O’Brien suggested Dr. Lightbown prepare her memorandum with the available materials, and if she were to receive public comments after it was prepared, the Commission would have her incorporate them and present at a later date with the revised memorandum. All four commissioners and Dr. Lightbown were amenable to this.

### Item #6 – Recognition Request of Standardbred Owners of MA as Breeders’ Representative

Dr. Lightbown will be ready to present this item for the next meeting.

### Item #7 – 2021 Harness Meet Update

Dr. Lightbown will be ready to present this item at the next meeting.

### Item #20 – Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association Request for Consultation

Dr. Lightbown will be ready to present this item at the next meeting.

Item #8 – Encore and PPC Quarterly Report

Community Affairs Chief Joe Delaney will be ready to present these items at the next meeting.

Item #9 – Community Mitigation Fund Application Review

Chief Delaney will be ready to present the final applications for this meeting. This will necessitate a vote.

Dr. Lightbown stated she would like to discuss the recently passed federal Horse Racing Integrity Act.

Licensing Chief Nakisha Skinner noted that she would like to discuss possible exemptions with additional positions at the new MGM restaurant.

*No other items were brought forward for the meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021.*

*The following items were discussed relative to the meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:*

Item #13 – PPC Capital Plan

Mr. Delaney suggested coordinating the Plainridge Park Casino (“PPC”) report with the upcoming executive session.

Item #10 – Public Records Process Discussion

Ms. Wells recommended discussing this item at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Item # 11 – NDA Discussion

Ms. Wells recommended discussing this item at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Item #12 – Police Reform Bill

Commissioner O’Brien recommended discussing this item at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Item #14 – Community Mitigation Fund Application Review

Chair Judd-Stein suggested Mr. Delaney summarize all CMF applications. This will not require a vote.

Item #15 – Budget Discussion

Ms. Wells noted that Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Derek Lennon will be ready to discuss this item at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

*No other items were brought forward for the meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.*

*The following items were discussed relative to the meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021:*

Item #16 – Budget Review

Commissioner Zuniga and Mr. Lennon will be ready to present this item. It will require a vote.

Item #17 – MGC Employee Vendor and Diversity

Ms. Wells will be ready to present this item.

*No other items were brought forward for the meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.*

*The following items identified as being “under review” were discussed as follows:*

Item #18 – Request to Amend PPC Racing COVID Plan to Allow Up to 3 Owners in the Winners’ Circle

Dr. Lightbown recommended keeping this item under review.

Item #19 – Responsible Gaming Framework Follow-Up

Ms. Wells noted that this should stay under review.

Commissioner Zuniga raised the issue of Impacted Live Entertainment Venue (“ILEV”) agreements to be discussed at a later date.

11:03 a.m.     *Having no further business, Commissioner O’Brien made a motion to adjourn.*

*Commissioner Zuniga 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 May 12, 2021
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, agenda planning notes for May 12, 2021
3. Minutes of the April 28, 2021 agenda setting meeting