



Subcommittee on Public Safety Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2021 | 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Eileen O'Brien, Chair
Anthony Gulluni
Angela Davis (designee for Terrence Reidy)
Edward Dunn

[00:20] Welcome/ Opening Comments

Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) Commissioner Eileen O'Brien, Chair of the Gaming Policy Advisory Committee's (GPAC) Subcommittee on Public Services introduced herself and noted that she was taking over the role from Gayle Cameron. Chair O'Brien confirmed the virtual attendees on the meeting before turning comments over to MGC Chair Cathy Judd-Stein. Ms. Judd-Stein confirmed the subcommittee's obligation under section 68 to provide recommendations to the MGC on mitigating harm with respect to public safety.

[04:29] Minutes

Chair O'Brien confirmed that there was not a quorum for a vote on the minutes from February 6, 2019, but that a draft was available for committee members to review.

[05:06] Presentation by Christopher Bruce, Consultant in Crime Analysis and Data-Driven Policing:

"Assessing the Influence of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts Cities and Towns", Analysis of the influence of Encore Boston Harbor on its surrounding community Encore Boston Harbor

"Assessing the Influence of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts Cities and Towns", Analysis of changes in police data following 18 months of activity at MGM Springfield plus 3 months of COVID-related closures MGM Springfield

Joe Delaney, Chief of Community Affairs at MGC, introduced Christopher Bruce who provided his professional background and described his role as a consultant and analyst for MGC with regards to public safety data and studies related to the impact of casinos in the Commonwealth, such as theft, arson and assault. His report indicated the types of incident calls seen as a result, changes in hot spots, identification of specific casino-related incidents and in-depth analysis related to all three casinos in Massachusetts. Mr. Bruce included findings related to traffic, drunk driving, crime increases in immediate parameters to MGM, but indicated that they were "barely perceptible." Mr. Bruce also addressed the bearing that COVID had on data and implications for

the public safety research. He stated that his next report would be related specifically to drunk driving.

Video of Mr. Bruce's full presentation is available.

[38:20] Discussion of Community Mitigation Fund 2021 Public Safety Applications

Mr. Delaney provided background on the Community Mitigation Fund statute and uses identified, one of which is public safety costs and indicated that the guidelines were modified this year to encourage the submission of applications related to public safety training. He stressed that the applications had to express the connection to the casino in order to qualify. For this award year, they received 28 applications for over \$500 million, of which ten were related to public safety and two included training (including EMT, implicit bias, human trafficking, and accident reconstruction.) Considerations included how proportional the award request was related to the impact determined in the application.

[45:08] Updates and Next Steps

MGC Commissioner Gayle Cameron provided an overview of some upcoming conferences related to regulatory best practices from around the world, including investigations and other topics of interest to enforcement to be covered including responsible gaming, sports betting, and tribal relations.

Chair O'Brien opened the floor to all on the meeting to offer update, potential future meeting topics and any final questions.

[51:35] Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, and seconded. All voted in favor. Chair O'Brien thanked everyone for participating and called the meeting to close.