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## Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

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**Date/Time:** July 2, 2020 – 10:35a.m.

**Place:** Massachusetts Gaming Commission  
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1 646 741 5293  
MEETING ID: 112 556 7622

**Present:** Chair Cathy Judd-Stein  
Commissioner Gayle Cameron  
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga  
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins  
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien

**Given the unprecedented circumstances, 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 the public and individuals interested in attending public meetings during the global Coronavirus pandemic. In keeping with the guidance provided, the Commission conducted this public meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology.**

### Call to Order

10:40 a.m. Chair Cathy Judd-Stein called to order public meeting #311 of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (Commission). She noted that this meeting postponed due to technical difficulties from its scheduled time of 10:00 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.

*The Chair confirmed a quorum for the meeting with a Roll-Call.*

*Commissioner Cameron: Aye.*

*Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.*

*Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.*

*Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.*

*Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.*

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

10:40 a.m. *Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes from the Commission meeting of June 11, 2020, subject to correction for typographical errors and other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner O'Brien requested an edit to the*

*documentation of the Commission's consensus regarding a casino occupancy requirement. Commissioner Zuniga requested a typographical edit. 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, pending the edits.*

## **Administrative Update**

[10:46 a.m.](#) Interim Executive Director Karen Wells stated that Monday, July 6, 2020, is the tentative date set by Governor Baker to reopen casinos. The final determination of this opening date will be data-driven, based on health metrics. The Chair noted the importance of cross-training employees and expressed her concern regarding staff preparedness for a reopening. Ms. Wells confirmed that the gaming agents and racing employees and the Gaming Enforcement Unit are all prepared for July 6, 2020.

[10:53 a.m.](#) **State of Simulcasting/ADW – Account Wagering Discussion**  
Director of Racing, Dr. Alex Lightbown, reviewed the current status of account wagering in Massachusetts for the Commission. She noted that [205 CMR 6.00: Pari-Mutuel Rules for Thoroughbred Racing, Harness Racing, and Greyhound Racing](#) specifies the Commission's regulation on account wagering. She stated that Massachusetts has been able to collect some revenue from online wagering during the shutdown of simulcasting and live racing.

[10:56 a.m.](#) Financial Analyst Chad Bourque reported that he is working with licensees and internal colleagues to provide reconciliation and billing. He stated that the first quarter was "flat" until there was a \$10M increase in May's handle compared to May of 2019. Advance-Deposit Wagering (ADW) increased by over 50% since the business closures in March. The handle is at \$91M, compared to last year's handle of around \$90M.

[11:01 a.m.](#) Commissioner Zuniga asked if there is any way to identify any newcomers to ADW connected with the racetrack closure. Mr. Bourque stated that he is confident that there is an identification method. Commissioner Zuniga then commented that it is important for the public to know mobile online betting for horse racing has been available since 2001. He opined that this could be a model to be replicated in other gaming forms, as it is safer during the pandemic.

[11:05 a.m.](#) **Update on Internal Control Variances**  
Interim Executive Director Karen Wells updated the Commission on regulatory action concerning the casinos. The Commission has delegated special authority

for the executive director to grant variations of the internal controls at the licensees' request, per [205 CMR 138.00](#). She stated that she did receive some requests where determinations were made by the team and approved by her. Ms. Wells described the requests to the Commission and noted that should there be a denial of a licensee's request, they will have the ability to appeal it to the Commissioners.

[11:07 a.m.](#) There was a request that there be a maximum load of 30 tables by the pit boss, which is an increase from 24. This request was deemed appropriate, as there will now be fewer people at the tables, and there is also a dealer and a supervisor on the gaming floor. Assistant Director/Gaming Agents Divisions Chief Bruce Band explained the role of the pit boss.

[11:08 a.m.](#) Next, Ms. Wells stated that there was a variance requested by Plainridge Park Casino (P.P.C.) regarding minimum staffing numbers. This request was approved in part and denied in part. Ms. Wells noted that the team can only approve a change if it doesn't lessen the property's applicable administrative or physical control.

[11:09 a.m.](#) Lastly, Ms. Wells described that there were some variances requested concerning progressive jackpots. Mr. Band explained progressive jackpots and the specific variances that were requested by two casinos. There was a discussion around the required notice regarding the transfer of jackpots from one machine to another.

## Racing Division

[11:16 a.m.](#) **Approval of Licensees' (Plainridge Park, Suffolk Downs, Raynham Park) Pandemic Related Minimum Standards for Reopening of Horse Racing and Simulcasting Operations**

Dr. Lightbown thanked everyone involved in working on the plans for a safe and sustainable reopening of the facilities. She reviewed the plan, entitled, "Protocols for Conduct of Live Racing Under COVID-19" with the Commission.

Dr. Lightbown stated that Plainridge Park Racecourse recently requested that a photographer take a "win" picture without the driver getting off the sulkie, as there will be no winner's circle ceremony. She stated that this would comply with the COVID-19 protocols.

[11:21 a.m.](#) Plainridge Park Racecourse General Manager Steve O'Toole commented on this, stating that it would be helpful if the driver could get off at different times. Commissioner Zuniga noted that the only issue is to avoid the congregation of people. It was determined that the protocol for the "win" picture will now be that the photographer will attempt to take a win picture with the driver only.

[11:23 a.m.](#) The Chair stated that this document has been revised to reflect input received from the licensees, and she clarified that this request is an additional change. Ms.

Wells led the Commission through each item up for discussion and asked the Commissioners for any questions or comments for discussion before voting.

[11:25 a.m.](#) With regard to the “Ship-Ins/Barn Area” section of the document, there was discussion around other jurisdictions’ recommendations on receiving horses and people from across state lines during the pandemic, and Dr. Lightbown described the different controls concerning this. She stated that this year, due to COVID-19 that Plainridge Park Racecourse will be a completely ship-in facility.

[11:28 a.m.](#) Mr. O’Toole stated that he has observed that other states have reopened, and there is a disadvantage to the horses that have been sitting here in Massachusetts. He noted that the purses are not the same as they were before the pandemic across the country. There was discussion around the likely status of purses across the state upon reopening.

Mr. O’Toole also stated there is an overabundance of space inside the barns, as they are using every other stall to achieve social distancing. The Chair noted that this item should be taken out to ensure consistency with the additional edits throughout the document.

[11:41 a.m.](#) Dr. Lightbown noted that she just received a request to clarify the horsemen about thoroughly cleaning their stalls before they leave. Dr. Lightbown stated that she would add in the details needed in that “Barn Area” section of the document.

[11:49 a.m.](#) There was a discussion around Plainridge Park Racecourse’s guideline for the outdoor occupancy level not to exceed 200 people. Commissioner O’Brien stated that there needs to be a discussion about how the flow-through is handled from outside to inside the facility. The Chair clarified that the outdoor space does not have any bleachers or seating, so it is all in a large area designated for spectating. The Chair suggested that this discussion be tabled while someone calculates the square footage of the space and considers a reasonable number of spectators before deciding.

[11:58 a.m.](#) Ms. Wells stated that an edit could be made to state that the occupancy level in the outdoor apron area adjacent to the main building shall ensure that proper social distancing practices can be achieved.

Ms. Wells will also provide the Commission with pandemic safety officers' designations for gaming establishments and the Racing Division.

[12:00 p.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the plan submitted by Plainridge Park Racecourse, as amended, for use in the reopening of their simulcasting operations when allowed, subject to any applicable orders issued by the Governor as part of Commonwealth's phased reopening plan, including any applicable sector-specific workplace safety standards, and subject to any*

*necessary adjustments based on a change in circumstances. 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.*

[12:02 p.m.](#) Dr. Lightbown reviewed the changes that were made to the document concerning Suffolk Downs with the Commission.

C.O.O. of Suffolk Downs, Chip Tuttle, reported that they are using the terrace for outdoor dining. They use markers on the floors inside and outside of the clubhouse to maintain six-foot distancing, and there will be no inside food and beverage service.

[12:10 p.m.](#) *Commissioner Cameron moved that the Commission approve the plan submitted by Suffolk Downs for use in reopening their simulcasting operations when allowed, subject to any applicable orders issued by the Governor as part of Commonwealth's phased reopening plan, including any applicable sector-specific workplace safety standards, and subject to any necessary adjustments based on a change in circumstances. Commissioner Stebbins 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.*

[12:12 p.m.](#) Next. Dr. Lightbown reviewed edits made to specific sections in the guidelines for Raynham Park Simulcast Center.

[12:14 p.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the plan submitted by Raynham Park Simulcast Center for use in the reopening of their simulcasting operations when allowed, subject to any applicable orders issued by the Governor as part of Commonwealth's phased reopening plan including any applicable sector-specific workplace safety standards, and subject to any necessary adjustments based on a change in circumstances. 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.*

The Commission took a 10-minute recess.

[12:25 a.m.](#) The Chair announced that Governor Baker determined that “Phase 3” of the Massachusetts Reopening Plan will begin on Monday, July 13th.

[12:26 p.m.](#) **Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association (MTBA) Request to Race outside of MA**

Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium submitted a memo to the Commission requesting that the Fort Erie Race Track in Ontario, Canada, be allowed to host races on behalf of the MTBA.

Mr. Grossman explained the Commission’s role as it relates to Thoroughbred horse racing outside the Commonwealth, specifically to the use of breeders’ funds for those purposes. He noted that Attorney Kathleen Reagan, Dr. Anthony Zizza of the MTBA, and Dr. Lightbown are present should the Commission have any questions.

The Commission needs to determine whether it should approve the Thoroughbred breeders’ funds in advance of use in out-of-state races. Mr. Grossman explained and cited [G.L. c. 128, § 2\(g\), \(j\)](#) that pertain to Thoroughbred and Standardbred breeders. One change was inserted in the statute in 2015 when it became clear that Thoroughbred racing in the Commonwealth would become sparse with the closure of Suffolk Downs. Mr. Grossman stated that this will be the first time the Commission has analyzed this statute at such a detailed level. He then outlined the ways the Commission could interpret the law.

[12:42 p.m.](#) Commissioner Cameron asked for clarification between Mr. Grossman's verbal description of this request and the memo submitted by Fort Erie. Dr. Zizza clarified to the Commission that this request is not only for hosting races at Fort Erie but also for Belterra Park Gaming in Cincinnati, Ohio, and potential additional locations. He stated that situations on the ground are changing and that they are happy to work with the Commission as often as needed to keep them informed.

[12:49 p.m.](#) Commissioner Zuniga asked Mr. Grossman to review the legal aspect of the trustees’ fiduciary responsibility to ensure that payments were distributed from the Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF) meet the intent of the statute. Mr. Grossman suggests that the Commission abide by [M.G.L. c. 23K, § 60](#) in the statute that prescribed how funds shall be distributed. There was further discussion around the Commission’s fiduciary duty.

[1:10 p.m.](#) Commissioner Zuniga voiced his concern over taking races outside of the country, as it does not seem like this was the program's intent. Commissioner Cameron also expressed her concern regarding the Commission's role, if any, in these expenditures.

[1:13 p.m.](#) Commissioner O'Brien raised a concern about Attorney Kevin Considine's analysis in his letter in the Commissioners' Packet. She disagrees with the implication that the Commission is excluded from auditing the books of the MTBA, as the letter refers only to the MTBA and the State Auditor being under statutory obligation to do so. The commissioner also asked for clarification on the history of the MTBA's position on seeking the Commission's approval on this matter. Mr. Grossman noted that a letter from Mr. Considine in 2015 requests the Commission's approval.

[1:23 p.m.](#) The Chair summarized for the Commission that the MTBA acknowledges the Commission's consultation requirement and that perhaps there was a courtesy to request approval [as referenced in a 2015 letter from Mr. Considine]. Upon further reflection of their review of the applicable statutory provisions, the MTBA does not see an affirmative requirement due from the Commission today.

[1:30 p.m.](#) After substantial discussion and analysis, the Chair stated the Commission will not reach a consensus at this time. She suggested that Mr. Grossman investigate history further. Mr. Zizza noted that they have postponed plans to race, to include dates in July that they have not been able to publicize until this matter is settled.

[1:36 p.m.](#) This discussion will be paused to allow additional time for the Commission to regroup and discuss this matter.

On another matter, the Chair then announced that she just received word that the Governor has delegated the responsibility for setting standards on managing COVID-19 for casinos, racing, and simulcasting to the Commission. This will confirm the standards adopted by the Commission over the past several weeks will be the standard for casinos, racing, and simulcasting. There will be no further industry-related standards issued by the Baker-Polito administration.

The Commission took a 20-minute recess.

[2:00 p.m.](#) The Commission reconvened, and the Chair confirmed a quorum. Ms. Wells advised that she has been on a call with Mr. Grossman and others and suggested moving forward with the agenda while she continues to work with them for a resolution on the MTBA matter.



## Legal Division

[2:04 p.m.](#)     **Review of Draft of 205 CMR 134.03: Gaming Service Employees, Amendments to Allow Employees of Gaming Licensees' Sister Properties to Work On-Site During Reopening Phase Without Licensure or Registration Under Certain Conditions; and Small Business Impact Statement**

Associate General Counsel Carrie Torrisi and Licensing Manager Bill Curtis presented an amendment to the regulation. The proposed amendment enables a gaming licensee to temporarily allow individuals from a sister property to help reopen a gaming establishment following a suspension of operations without becoming licensed or registered. The amendment is being proposed for emergency adoption to remedy an issue that emerged due to the unanticipated closures of the gaming establishments.

[2:08 p.m.](#)     Mr. Curtis explained that the licensee is seeking employees with prior experience in opening casinos. He also clarified that these are only temporary positions, and they will not be displacing any Massachusetts employees. He added that this will not apply to Encore Boston Harbor.

[2:12 a.m.](#)     *Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve the Small Business Impact Statement for 205 CMR 134.03: Gaming Service Employees, as included in the Commissioners' Packet. Commissioner Stebbins 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.*

*Commissioner O'Brien further moved that the Commission adopts the version of 205 CMR 134.03: Gaming Service Employees as included in the Commissioners' Packet by emergency and authorizing the staff to take all necessary steps begin the regulation promulgation process. Commissioner Stebbins 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.*



## Finance and Accounting Division

### 2:13 a.m. **Budget Year 2021**

Commissioner Zuniga reviewed the Commission's FY2021 budget and assessment projections with the Commission. He noted that the total budget presented today, excluding racing capital and promotional trust funds (benefiting licensees and Community Mitigation Fund [C.M.F.] grants), is \$39.73M, which funds 93 full-time employees and six contract employees.

The commissioner stated that this proposal had been posted for public comment. He noted that the C.M.F. staff will take six to nine months to work with the Commission to adopt the C.M.F. fund's regulations. This will involve more robust input and having a transparency of processes.

There was no vote regarding COVID-19 considerations, so there may be adjustments needed in gaming positions. The staff has asked for the best estimates of gaming positions with the information they have available as the gaming facilities reopen, and staff will update those numbers.

2:19 p.m. Commissioner Zuniga then directed the Commission to review a table that illustrating the annual assessment for all gaming positions in the casinos and reviewed each category with the Commission. He then asked the Commissioners if they had any questions or comments.

2:23 p.m. Commissioner Stebbins made remarks, stating that the recommendations for a (C.M.F.) regulatory process will be beneficial. He noted that a conversation about staffing to monitor the program adequately is needed. He also suggested setting guidelines in the regulations for clawback proceedings on previously approved grants.

2:26 p.m. The Chair stated that she is pleased with the resolution on the C.M.F. She then asked how the issue of salary needs that are arising are being managed. Specifically, she asked if the staff has reserved some flexibility to address some of those needs. Commissioner Zuniga stated that the budget assumes it will take time to backfill some of those positions in the aggregate. He then noted that the Commission might want to consider the proration of the licensees' cost and the best estimate of gaming positions. There may be a very different dynamic this year and will likely return to adjust those numbers if necessary.

2:33 p.m. Finance and Budget Office Manager Agnes Beaulieu stated that the team estimates that there would not be any backfilling of positions for six months from July 1, 2020, and this is where the savings will occur. Ms. Beaulieu stated that the licensees have requested that the Commission return to them later if an increase of the assessment to the licensees is necessary.

[2:39 p.m.](#) The Chair asked if there is any room in the budget for hiring new employees to accommodate certain departments' needs. Ms. Wells stated that there might be some flexibility, depending on what happens over the next six months.

[2:49 p.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the Finance and Accounting Division's proposed budget for F.Y. 2021, and related recommendations included in the Commissioners' Packet and as discussed here today. 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.*

## **Racing Division**

### **[2:51 p.m.](#) Approval of Licensees' (Plainridge Park, Suffolk Downs, Raynham Park) Pandemic Related Minimum Standards for Reopening of Horse Racing and Simulcasting Operations (con't.)**

Mr. Grossman recommended that the Commission review the breeders' proposal to fund racing outside of Massachusetts, but do so in a consultative capacity, as the statute prescribes. The Commission, via the Chair, can consult on this matter. This enables the Commission to make its position to the breeders very clear about its views on this proposal. Any directive would not be binding.

[2:53 p.m.](#) Commissioner Cameron stated that there is not enough information to consider. Commissioner Zuniga stated that when payments are made from funds that the Commission is a trustee of those accounts, the Finance Division always considers who authorized it.

[2:58 p.m.](#) Dr. Lightbown stated to the Chair that she has just received information regarding Ohio races during the break and would share those documents with her.

[3:02 p.m.](#) There was further discussion about the Commission's authority.

[3:07 p.m.](#) Dr. Zizza clarified that the MTBA is transparent. They have a proposed agenda that he will provide the Commission to review and discuss. He further stated that he is trying to avoid the pre-approval process that delays racing significantly. Lastly, he noted that he has a system in place to deliver the funds to Massachusetts.

[3:16 p.m.](#) Ms. Reagan described that this issue has come up now because the pre-approval process is defeating the program's goals, and stated that fulfilling it would satisfy the statutory and fiduciary obligations.

[3: 22 p.m.](#) Commissioner Zuniga stated the reasons why he is in favor of this being on a pre-approval basis. Commissioner O'Brien asked if the question should be phrased differently. Instead of asking if the Commission has authority, instead, ask if the organization is statutorily obligated to obtain pre-approval from the Commission.

[3:28 p.m.](#) Dr. Lightbown made remarks on the proposal and the process of helping the program.

[3:34 p.m.](#) There was a lengthy discussion regarding the pre-approval process as it pertains to finance, and the legal ability for the Commission to require authorization.

[3:46 p.m.](#) Commissioner Cameron stated that she and Dr. Lightbown need Dr. Zizza to provide information on Ohio to reach a consensus if appropriate. Dr. Zizza agreed and stated that he has been coordinating with Dr. Lightbown on this. Commissioner Zuniga suggests Dr. Lightbown or C.F.O. Derek Lennon return to the Commission seeking authorization, as the Commission is the trustee.

[4:00 p.m.](#) Thoroughbred Owner Paddy Reardon expressed her concern with the conversation today. She does not want the Commission to relinquish responsibility. She stated that she feels that the vote today needs to be just what is on the agenda. There are many unanswered questions regarding where the races will occur, but not regarding who handles the purses.

[4:10 p.m.](#) *Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission find under M.G.L. c. 128 § 2(g), the Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders' Association is not statutorily obligated to seek pre-approval from the Commission subject to compliance with other statutory obligations, and the Commission encourages further consultation with the director of racing for the Commission related to scheduling racing outside the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion.*

*Roll-Call Vote:*

*Commissioner Cameron: No.*

*Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.*

*Commissioner Zuniga: Aye.*

*Commissioner Stebbins: Aye.*

*Chair Judd-Stein: Aye.*

*The motion passed 4-1.*

## **Other business**

[4:16 p.m.](#) Commissioner O'Brien brought to the Commission's attention that given the Governor's ruling on "Phase 3", the Commission will need to formally amend the order from the end of May that states that the suspension will continue to June 1, subject to any further discussion. Commissioner O'Brien stated that the Governor has announced the July 6 start date for "Phase 3". Ms. Wells stated that Encore

and M.G.M. are both scheduled to open on July 12<sup>th</sup>, and P.P.C. is scheduled to open on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Lightbown confirmed that there will be a qualifying race on Monday.

Specifically, on May 14, the Commission voted unanimously to extend the temporary closure of the state's three casino properties until at least June 1, given the current circumstances and pending forthcoming guidance from Governor Baker and the state's Restart Advisory Board. The Commission would need to move to vacate the order or amend it.

The Commission voted unanimously 5-0 via Roll-Call to postpone the June 1, 2020 opening of Plainridge Racecourse until further notice. The Division of Racing noted a very fluid and rapidly changing situation and re-evaluated as needed. Also, a process is underway among stakeholders to research best practices and prepare for safe opening procedures. [To review the related memo, see page 82 of the Commissioners' Packet.] The Commission would need to move to vacate the order or amend that as well. Commissioner O'Brien recommends vacating the order suspending the activities.

[4:29 p.m.](#)

*Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission vacate the order of May 7, 2020, postponing horse racing at Plainridge from June 1, 2020, until further notice, subject to the COVID-19 protocols that were passed this date by the Gaming Commission, effective July 6, 2020. 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.*

*Commissioner O'Brien moved to vacate the order of May 14, 2020, in which the Commission unanimously voted to temporarily suspend the operations of the state's three gaming facilities, subject to the protocols enacted not previously by this Commission for the COVID-19 protocols, and effective July 6, 2020.*

*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.*

## Commissioners' Updates

[4:31 p.m.](#) The Chair reiterated that the Governor has delegated responsibility for setting COVID-19 standards for casinos, racing, and simulcasting to the Commission, and they only need to comply with the Commission's standards.

Next, the Chair formally welcomed Sarah Magazine, standing in for Elaine Driscoll while she is in the Harvard Fellowship Program. The Chair noted that Ms. Magazine was with Mentor Network and her most recent title was Vice President of External Affairs and Director of Communication for Barbara Lee's Foundation. The Chair also worked with her when she was the Deputy Press Secretary for Governor Swift.

[4:36 p.m.](#) The Chair made heartfelt remarks as she wished the licensees well with the reopening of their casinos. She asked them to take full responsibility, wear masks and exercise empathy to ensure the program's success and safety.

The Commissioners all made remarks and shared the Chair's sentiment and welcomed Mrs. Magazine to the Commission.

[4:43 p.m.](#) *With no further business, Commissioner Zuniga moved to adjourn. Commissioner Stebbins 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. Notice of Meeting and Agenda dated July 2, 2020
2. Commission Meeting Minutes dated June 11, 2020
3. Memorandum re: Variance Requests Related to the Reopening of Gaming Establishments dated July 2, 2020
4. Plainridge Racing COVID-19 Protocols, dated July 1, 2020
5. Suffolk Downs' Reopening Plan, dated July 1, 2020
6. Raynham Park Reopening Plan, dated July 1, 2020
7. MTBA Plan for Racing
8. MTBA Considine Letter dated June 24, 2020
9. MTBA Fort Erie Letter dated March 5, 2020
10. Public Comment dated July 1, 2020
11. 205 CMR 134.03 Cover Sheet
12. 205 CMR 134.03 Small Business Impact Statement

13. 205 CMR 134.03 Draft Regulation
14. FY21 Budget Memo dated July 2, 2020
15. Attachment A
16. Attachment B
17. Attachment C

/s/ Bruce Stebbins  
Secretary