



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: October 25, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal Street, 12th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Present: Interim Chairwoman Gayle Cameron
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien

**Time entries are linked to
corresponding section in
Commission meeting video, now with
closed-captioning.**



Call to Order

See transcript page 1

[10:00 a.m.](#) Interim Chairwoman Cameron called to order public meeting #254 of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

Approval of Minutes

See transcript page 1

[10:01 a.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes from the October 11th Commission Meeting, subject to correction for typographical errors and other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4 – 0.*

Administrative Update

See transcript pages 1 – 4

[10:02 a.m.](#) **General Update**

Executive Director Ed Bedrosian updated the Commission on the Wynn suitability review and investigation status. He outlined the steps that will take place in this investigation before presentation to the Commission. He anticipates the hearing to take place in the first two weeks of December.

[10:05 a.m.](#) **Massachusetts Gaming Commission Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Closeout**
Commissioner Zuniga reported on behalf of Derek Lennon, Chief Financial and Accounting Officer. Commissioner Zuniga summarized the fiscal activity for each of the Commission's divisions for FY18. He concluded that as the Gaming Control Fund final spending was less than the approved spending level for FY18, the surplus would be credited to licensees' FY19 assessments.

[10:13 a.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the Commission's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Closeout report as presented in the packet. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4 – 0.*

Research and Responsible Gaming

See transcript pages 4 – 16

[10:14 a.m.](#) **Springfield Baseline Public Safety and Crime Report**
The Commission reviewed the Springfield Baseline Public Safety and Crime Report authored by Christopher Bruce, Crime Analyst Consultant to the Commission. His report is a Baseline analysis of crime, call-for-service, and collision data in the communities near MGM Springfield. The report is also part of a series of studies to determine the effects of Massachusetts' new casinos on the public safety of the surrounding regions.

Mark Vander Linden, Director of Research and Responsible Gaming gave a presentation with Mr. Bruce called Assessing the Impact of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts. The presentation illustrated the factors of the baseline study.

Mr. Bruce also presented his evaluation plan to the Commission, with regard to collecting post-casino data and forecasting future crime statistics. In this plan, he will look for new patterns and trends.

[10:46 a.m.](#) Brian Walsh, civilian Public Information Officer for the Springfield Police Department and Bill Schwarz, Director of the Springfield Police Crime Analysis Unit spoke at the request of Interim Chairwoman Cameron. Mr. Walsh reported changes that were made to the district's Metro Unit in anticipation of the casino, and that the changes implemented are working extremely well.

Massachusetts State Police Lieutenant Tim Babbin and Detective Lieutenant Brian Connors reported on the cooperative work between the Springfield police department and the Gaming Enforcement Unit.

Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development

See transcript pages 16 – 29

[11:10 a.m.](#) **Encore Boston Harbor Affirmative Marketing and Local Vendor Plans**

Jill Griffin, Director of Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development presented Encore Boston Harbor's plan, outlining their ongoing strategy to engage with local communities and businesses pre- and post-opening. The plan was posted for public comment from October 4, 2018 through October 19, 2018. Director Griffin reviewed all comments received with the Commission. With her was David Granata, Director of Procurement for Encore Boston Harbor, Nadiuska Ballard, Procurement Manager for Encore Boston Harbor, and , and Jacqui Krum, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Wynn Resorts Development.

Mr. Granata identified the plan's three key objectives, which are 1) to identify local and certified diverse firms, 2) to solicit those firms across a wider base than what is typical, and 3) to award meaningful and ongoing business.

Encore Boston Harbor is also considering partnering with Everett High School and other organizations to create mentoring programs.

[11:59 a.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the Encore Boston Harbor Affirmative Marketing and Local Vendor Plans as presented in the packet, with three provisions. First, at such appropriate time, Encore Boston Harbor will share their plan or strategies to address the issue around the local purchasing of gift certificates as provided in the host and surrounding community agreements. Second, Encore Boston Harbor will identify and describe their strategy of working with vendors that are not chosen. Third, provide the Commission's Director of Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development the opportunity to meet Encore Boston Harbor's new Diversity Manager and review his/her progress on meeting diversity inclusion goals. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4 - 0.*

[12:01 p.m.](#) **Veteran Business Event Update**

Crystal Howard, Program Coordinator described the agenda and scope of an upcoming event scheduled for November 5th of the "Veterans Doing Business with Casinos" where the Commission, as well as all three Massachusetts casinos, and the Massachusetts Office of Supplier Diversity will highlight veteran business opportunities in the Commonwealth's new expanded gaming industry.

Ombudsman

See Transcript Pages 29 - 39

[12:05 p.m.](#) **Draft 2019 Community Mitigation Fund Applications Guidelines**

The Commission continued their review of the 2019 Community Mitigation fund Draft Guidelines with Ombudsman John Ziemba. He requested approval of the discussion draft, and recommended that the Commission put the discussion draft out for public comment period to end on Monday, November 19, 2018. He stated that the goal would be to come back to the Commission at the December 6, 2018 meeting so the communities would have roughly two months before the statutory February 1, 2019 application deadline.

The Ombudsman made recommendations to include specific impact grants, transportation planning grants, non-transportation planning grants, and reserves. He also recommended that the Commission solicit comments on a proposal to create a new category of grant, the 2019 Transit Project of Regional Significance grant.

The Commission also discussed the statement of intent that was included in the previous year's guidelines that stated that the Commission would consider breaking up the Community Mitigation Fund by region.

[12:25 p.m.](#) It was noted to the Commission that both host communities, as a result of their agreement, have significant resources to potentially dedicate to workforce development. Jill Griffin summarized some of the successes of the Workforce Development initiatives that were recently launched.

[12:33 p.m.](#) **Region A Local Community Mitigation Advisory Committee (LCMAC) Appointments**

Ombudsman John Ziemba reviewed with the Commission a memo recommending that Mr. David Bancroft of MassDevelopment be appointed as the Region A Economic Development representative to the LCMAC, and that Vincent Panzini of Everett be appointed as representative for the Everett Chamber of Commerce to the LCMAC.

[12:35 p.m.](#) *Commissioner Stebbins moved that the Commission approve the appointments of Mr. Panzini and Mr. Bancroft to the Region A Local Mitigation Advisory Committee. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4 – 0.*

[12:36 p.m.](#) **Legislative Filings/Priorities**

Ombudsman Ziemba reviewed two pieces of legislation with the Commission, and a letter with legislative recommendations for consideration in the 191st General Court during the 2018-2019 legislative session. The recommendations are regarding horse racing and wagering, as well as the ethics regulations of municipal and regional planning agency employees participating in Gaming Policy Advisory Committees. He noted that there is a deadline of November 7, 2018 for filing of legislation by state agencies on these items. Ombudsman Ziemba stated that the Commission will refile, pursue and monitor these issues as well as monitor any movement on sports betting legislation.

[1:15 p.m.](#) *Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Zuniga. Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. Notice of Meeting and Agenda, dated October 25, 2018
2. Meeting Minutes Draft, dated October 11, 2018

3. FY18 Gaming Control Fund Closeout Report
4. Appendix A – Spending and Revenue Report
5. Assessing the Impact of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts - PowerPoint Presentation
6. Assessing the Impact of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts Cities and Towns – report
7. Encore Boston Harbor Supplier Diversity Plan
8. Encore Boston Harbor Affirmative Marketing and Local Vendor Plan
9. November 5, 2018 Veteran Business Event Overview
10. Memo – 2019 Community Mitigation Fund Draft Guidelines
11. Draft – 2019 Community Mitigation Fund dated October 22, 2018
12. Memo – Recommendations for Region A Local Community Mitigation Advisory Committee Membership
13. Letter to Steven James, House Clerk regarding Filings for Consideration in the 191st General Court dated October 23, 2018

/s/ Catherine Blue
Assistant Secretary