



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Agenda Setting Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: January 2, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal Street, 12th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts

Present:

Chair Cathy Judd-Stein	Scott Helwig
Commissioner Bruce Stebbins	Loretta Lillios
Commissioner Enrique Zuniga	Jill Griffin
Mark Vander Linden	Alexandra Lightbown
Karen Wells	Jaime Ennis
Bill Curtis	John Ziemba
Ed Bedrosian	Elaine Driscoll
Todd Grossman	

Call to Order

Chair Judd-Stein called the 68th Agenda Setting meeting to order. There was discussion of Executive Director Bedrosian leaving the agency as well as a message of appreciation for his commitment.

The Chair asked Commissioner Zuniga to assist in navigating the executive director search process in compliance with Open Meeting Law. The Chair proposed designating IEB Director Karen Wells as interim executive director given her credentials, including having served in the position in the past. Director Wells has indicated that she would agree to serve in that capacity in order to ensure smooth transition. Commissioners Zuniga and Stebbins assented, and a formal review and vote will take place at the upcoming Commission meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the minutes from the Agenda Setting Meeting of December 11, 2019, subject to correction for typographical errors or other nonmaterial matters. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 – 0.

Agenda Planning for Upcoming Commission Meetings

(Scheduled Commission Meeting on January 9, 2020)

Item #1 – Administrative Update. Director Bedrosian will offer some remarks.

Item #2 – Regulations. Amendments throughout 205 CMR 3.00 and 4.00 will be presented to the Commission for final approval including sending to the Legislature for 60 day review. The Commission will also review an amendment with regard to racing to 205 CMR 101.02 for a vote to finalize the promulgation process. All of these draft regulations were approved initially at the Commission meeting on 11/7.

A draft regulation addressing the use of information related to sealed and expunged records has been prepared and will be presented to the Commission for review and commencement of the promulgation process.

Item #3 – Clarification of Regulation 205 CMR 134.09 re: Sealed Records. See item #2 above.

Item #4 – Encore Boston Harbor Quarterly Report Follow Up. Will be ready for presentation.

Item #5 – Plainridge Park Casino Request for Capital Improvement Fund Reimbursement.
Moved to 1/23 meeting.

Item #6 – Encore Boston Harbor 90 Day Commitments. This item will be moved to the 1/23 meeting.

Item #7 – Quarterly Report Template Review. This item is expected to be ready for 1/23 meeting. The template should include a new section for responsible gaming/GameSense updates.

Item #8 – 2018 Workforce Diversity Economic Impact Report. This item is ready for presentation. The chair expressed interest in discussing the meaning of the information contained in the report; is it for purposes of establishing accountability or to inform future action?

Item #9 – Racing Regulations. See item #2 above.

Item #10 – Region C RFI Questions/Public Comments – Status Report. A draft of the RFI and questions for public comment will be ready for review by the Commission; Director Lennon will be available to discuss process.

Item #11 – Licensee Sexual Harassment Policies. This item may be ready for discussion at the Commission's 1/23 meeting, but is still being reviewed.

Item #12 – Review of MGC Enhanced Code of Ethics. The Code is still being reviewed, and comments relative to amendments are forthcoming. When prepared, a draft will be circulated for review.

Item #13 – PPC Compliance Review – License Renewal. Commissioner Zuniga is leading the review process, and will meet with staff to strategize. The issue should be ready for discussion at the Commission's 1/23 meeting so that a road map can be established.

Item #14 – New England Gaming Market Update. This issue remains under review.

Item #15 – Gaming Economic Development Fund White Paper Update. This issue remains under review.

Item #16 – Licensee Quarterly Reports – MGM, PPC, & Encore. The MGM update will take place on 2/27; the Commission will meet in Springfield on that date if possible.

Future meetings- The following dates will remain on the calendar as prospective meeting dates though adjustments may be necessary: 1/23, 2/6, 2/13.

Review of unpaid 2018 horseracing tickets will be placed on the 1/23 Commission meeting for review and vote (note- patrons have one year to cash in a winning ticket which then expire).

The Commission will discuss the status of the horseracing laws, *vis a vis* the impending expiration date, at its 1/9 meeting.

The due date for the submission of Community Mitigation Fund applications will fall on a Saturday this year so will need to be adjusted.

The Commission may need to review the status of MGM's commitments relative to 31 Elm Street at its 2/13 (possibly 2/27) meeting depending upon the expected upcoming review by the Springfield City Council. If no action is taken, the matter may be reviewed by the Commission at a March meeting. Review of the matter may include changes to the financing of the project, amendments to the Springfield Host Community agreement, and/or an amendment to the approved construction schedule. The licensee would likely have to present an update to the Commission for possible vote.

The process for a search for an executive director and general counsel will be discussed at the 1/9 Commission meeting.

The Chair requested that Commissioner Zuniga take the lead on a comprehensive regulatory review process. It was noted that the Governor's Office is presently undertaking such a review statewide. Further, Becky Harris, former chair of the NGCB, is teaching a course on regulatory review and has reached out to offer student assistance with any process the Commission undertakes.

The Commission will convene a number of executive sessions including participation by outside counsel.

Director Griffin suggested coordinating a vendor spotlight for an upcoming February Commission meeting in Boston. The spotlight may look at DPD Transportation, an existing vendor of the Encore Boston Harbor.

The Commission will request an update on IAGR conference scheduled to take place in

September in Boston. Commissioner Cameron is involved in the planning.

Having no further business, Commissioner Zuniga made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. 3-0

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Notice of Meeting and Agenda, dated January 2, 2020
2. Massachusetts Gaming Commission, Agenda Planning Notes, dated December 20, 2019
3. Meeting Minutes of the December 11, 2019 Agenda Setting meeting

/s/ Bruce Stebbins
Secretary