Public Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 9, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**1000 Washington Street, Boston MA 02118, Conference Room 1D**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM

1. Roll Call

Commissioners

Bryan Lambert

Oded Carmi

Brett Miller

John Navien

Staff:

Greer Spatz - General Counsel/ Acting Executive Director

Jamie Dalton – Board Counsel

Peter Kelley – Senior Counsel

Paige Brenner – Program Coordinator I

Guy Licciardi – Compliance Officer III

Wil St. Hilaire – Compliance Officer III

Members of the Public

Michael Polvere

David Riccio

Christina Knight

Edgar Ballenas

Scott Lucey

William Newman

Frederic Belleton

Chris Warner

1. **Review/Vote** MSAC minutes for January 12, 2023, February 8, 2023, and February 16, 2023

After a review of the meeting minutes from February 8, 2023, Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve the minutes. Brett Miller **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was held where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

After a review of the meeting minutes from February 16, 2023, Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to approve the minutes. Brett Miller **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was held where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

After a review of the meeting minutes from January 12, 2023, Brett Miller made a **Motion** to approve the minutes. John Navien **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was held where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

1. Board Counsel Report
   1. Youth Combat Sports Sanctioning Organization

Board Counsel Jamie Dalton responded to a question from the Commission regarding its role set out by statute and in regulations in connection with youth and amateur events. She explained that the statute exempts most youth programming from the MSAC’s jurisdiction, but that MSAC regulations contemplate MSAC approval of one or more non-youth amateur sanctioning organizations in any discipline. Board Counsel further explained that no MSAC-licensed events should involve youth under 18 (or 16 in the case of boxing) and care should be taken to ensure that MSAC-licensed and youth events do not occur at the same venue at the same time or immediately consecutively. Board Counsel suggested that the MSAC could review the details of any planned youth event and provide the Commission’s comments about permissibility. Commissioner Carmi stated that he believed that all combat sports competitions, including those involving youth, were under the purview of MSAC per MGL. He further advised that holding a youth combat sports competition in the Commonwealth is illegal, unless it is held in accordance with a license granted by the commission.

1. Executive Director Report
   1. MSAC Financials

The revenue generated by the MSAC program and the expenses the department incurs were discussed briefly. Staff indicated that if there were any specific questions pertaining to the costs to run the program, the Division of Occupational Licensure’s CFO would be willing to answer them.

* 1. Annual Report to General Court

The annual report MSAC is required to complete on a yearly basis per MGL statute is completed through the audit performed at the Division level and is not its own standalone report. The report of finance is rolled in with the Division of Occupational Licensure’s programs. At the next meeting, licensing revenue totals were requested to be reviewed at a future meeting.

1. Applications
   1. Review of Boxing Manager’s Application for Scott Lucey

After a review of Scott Lucey’s application, the application was tabled to be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled MSAC Monthly Meeting.

* 1. Review of MMA Judge’s Application for Jennifer Deakins

After a review of Jennifer Deakin’s application, the application was tabled to be reviewed at a future regularly scheduled MSAC Monthly Meeting. Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to postpone reviewing the application until Ms. Deakins participated in 3 sanctioned events under the supervisions of a licensed MMA Judge. John Navien **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was held where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

* 1. Review of MMA Manager’s Application for Joshua Meehan

It was determined that the incorrect application had been filled out for the commission to review and he had intended to renew his current license. Mr. Meehan was directed to fill out the correct application, so that staff can process his licensing renewal request.

1. **Review/Vote** 523 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 6, 10, 12-16, 23

This item was taken out of order to accommodate the schedules of those in attendance. John Navien made a **Motion** to move the draft regulations to promulgation. Oded Carmi **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** voted was had where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

1. **Review/Discuss** of February 18th Deputy Training Session

The Commission discussed the training that occurred on February 18, 2023, for deputy commissioners. The Commission concluded that the training was useful for the deputies who were able to attend as it better enabled those deputies to perform their functions at sanctioned events. No formal action was taken.

1. **Discuss/Vote** Additional Deputy Training Session

The Commission determined that there would not be another Deputy Training scheduled at this time. No formal action was taken.

1. **Review/Vote** Second’s and Trainer’s Applications

Brett Miller presented his suggested changes based on the feedback provided at previous MSAC meetings. Some additional changes related to licensee attestations, and language related to the applicants’ qualifications were suggested by staff and commission members to be incorporated and reviewed at a future meeting. Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to move the proposed changes to be implemented into a draft document. John Navien **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** vote was held where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

1. **Review/Discuss** MSAC Proposed Fight Card Updates

Staff requested the commission include dates of birth as a change made to the proposed fight card, as well as the maximum number of bouts be changed from 24 to 20. A fulsome discussion on requiring a justification of each fight to be provided by the matchmaker was had between staff and the commission was had. Whether matchmakers should meet with the Commissioners and staff or provide a written justification for each fight, as well as how to efficiently consider subjective and objective data to properly match up fighters was also discussed. The Chair concluded that a further discussion at a future monthly meeting should be had where these ideas can be discussed more in depth, and a more definitive draft for the fight card can be reviewed. No action was taken on this item.

1. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Oded Carmi made a **Motion** to move to closed session and to then adjourn the meeting from closed session. John Navien **Seconded** the motion. A **Roll Call** voted was had where Bryan Lambert voted **YES**, Oded Carmi voted **YES,** Brett Miller voted **YES**, and John Navien voted **YES**. The motion passed **Unanimously**.

1. **Closed Session –** Investigatory Conference pursuant to G. L .c. 112 Sec.65C

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 PM

Documents Used During Meeting

January 12, 2023, Draft MSAC Minutes

February 8, 2023, Draft MSAC Minutes

February 16, 2023, Draft MSAC Minutes

Boxing Manager’s Application for Scott Lucey

MMA Judge’s Application for Jennifer Deakins

MMA Manager’s Application for Joshua Meehan

Draft 523 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 6, 10, 12-16, 23

Second’s and Trainer’s Applications Presentation