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OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Time: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

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

Hybrid Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1:40 PM

1. Roll Call

Commissioners

Bryan Lambert
Oded Carmi
Brett Miller
John Navien
Thomas Lacey

Staff

Andrew Bridges – Acting Executive Director
Jamie Dalton – Board Counsel
Paige Brenner – Program Coordinator

Members of Public:

Chris Traietti
Pat Sullivan
Michael Polvere
Jimmy Birchfield
Azamat Kozhakhmetov - MMA Manager Applicant
Zhadyra Assetkyzy - Boxing Manager Applicant

2. Review/Vote MSAC minutes for February 7, 2024 and February 22, 2024

Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the February 7 and 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Brett Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



3. Board Counsel Report

Board Counsel Jamie Dalton informed the MSAC board that the Riveria Promotions litigation was voluntarily dismissed by the plaintiff.

4. Executive Director Report

1. Boxer's Fund Status

Acting Executive Director Andrew Bridges informed the Commission that as of March 12, 2024, there is currently \$275,277.73 in the Boxer's Fund, and no applications are in process.

2. ID Cards

Staff and the Commission discussed that MSAC Commissioners and other members serving on boards administered by the Division of Occupational Licensure receive standard wallet-sized identification cards.

5. Applications

1. Review of MMA Judge's Application for David Peabody

After a brief call with the applicant and review of the application, Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the MMA Judge's Application for David Peabody. Thomas Lacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of Muay Thai Referee's Application for Amber Lindberg

After a brief call with the applicant and review of the application, Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the MMA Judge's Application for Amber Lindberg. Thomas Lacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Review of Muay Thai and MMA Judge's Application for Richard Pontz

This application was tabled for a future meeting.

4. Review of Boxing Manager's Application for Azamat Kozhakhmetov

This application was tabled for a future meeting.

5. Review of MMA Manager's Application for Zhadyra Assetkyzy

This application was tabled for a future meeting.

6. Discuss USA Boxing Monthly Report

Alex Sepulveda joined the meeting to discuss the USA Monthly Boxing report. Going forward, USA Boxing's New England's report will appear as an agenda item for each monthly Commission meeting. Additionally, the Commission will receive a quarterly report with certain national USA Boxing data. Mr. Sepulveda indicated he would be willing to participate in the MASC meetings going forward, and provided a brief verbal report, expressing there are an estimated 80 amateur shows planned for the year of 2024.

7. Discuss/Vote Granite Chin Variance Request

After a brief discussion with Chris Traietti regarding the requested variances, the following motions were made: 1) Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the variance from 523 CMR 13.04.3 regarding no one-pound-allowance; John Navien seconded the motion; and, the motion passed unanimously. 2) Oded Carmi then made a motion to approve the variances from 523 CMR 13.04 and 13.05, as modified during the meeting, regarding pre-fight and post-fight physicals for combatants continuing on to the second round; John Navien seconded the motion; and, the motion passed unanimously. 3) Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the variance from 523 CMR 14.04 regarding a second round of fights for first-round winners subject to the proposed round limitations in the variance request and with a minimum rest of 2 hours between fights; John Navien seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously. 4) Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the variance from 523 CMR 15.01.2 regarding an additional round in the event of a draw with judges or referee deciding the winner; John Navien seconded the motion; and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Discuss/Vote TCL Variance

A discussion was had between the Commissioners and promotion TCL regarding the variances requested. TCL addressed numerous questions and concerns from the Commission and staff. A concern related to licensing documentation being completed in a timely manner related to the variance request was raised by staff. TCL informed the Commission that they would be providing all fighter paperwork no less than three weeks in advance of the fight to ensure staff would have appropriate lead time to properly process and license all combatants. Another concern of weight tolerance for various weight classes was discussed, along with how TCL would address any alternates who would be needed should a fighter not make weight. To reduce the burden of licensing so many fights, TCL agreed to license 40 fighters as opposed to 48 fighters. Oded Carmi made a motion to approve the requested variances as submitted, with the following revisions as made during the meeting: 1) variance from 523 CMR 13.05 with a limit of 40 combatants; 2) variance from 523 CMR 13.04 and 13.05 for pre- and post-fight physicals for fighters continuing on to the second round; and 3) withdrawal of the variance request referencing 523 CMR 17.02; John Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 in favor, 1 in opposition. Thomas Lacey opposed the motion.

Oded Carmi then made a motion to delegate the pending license applications of promoter Jimmy Burchfield and matchmaker Patrick Sullivan to Chairman Lambert. John Navien seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 in favor, 1 in opposition. Thomas Lacey opposed the motion.

9. Discuss Shadowing Criteria

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

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

Oded Carmi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Thomas Lacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM