

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

December 10, 2020

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

(via Webinar)

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 JOHN ROMANO: Hi, everybody. Good
4 morning. My name is John Romano. And I am the
5 Director of Outdoor Advertising for MassDOT. We are
6 here for the December 10th Office of Outdoor
7 Advertising hearing.

8 This meeting is being held virtually by
9 Governor's Executive Order. Due to the COVID-19
10 pandemic, we cannot meet in person, so we are doing
11 this virtually.

12 We are running this hearing by
13 GoToWebinar.

14 Please note that this meeting is being
15 recorded by our stenographer who is in attendance. He
16 will provide a transcript of the meeting as always,
17 and it will be posted to our web page once the meeting
18 notes are approved at the next meeting, if possible,
19 or shortly after.

20 This meeting is accessible to people
21 with disabilities and individuals with limited English
22 proficiency. If you filed a request for assistance
23 and did not receive it, please contact MassDOT's
24 Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at 857-368-8580

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 or massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us.

2 Please note that accessible versions of
3 the meeting materials have been previously posted to
4 the OOA website and will be referred to in the
5 meeting. The links to those documents are also in the
6 chat box, and the materials are also available for
7 download through GoToWebinar.

8 We are going to run this meeting as
9 close to normal as our regular Outdoor Advertising
10 hearings. I will go through the agenda. While the
11 sign-in sheet cannot be physically signed, we have a
12 list of those who signed up for the webinar. That
13 will be provided to the stenographer.

14 On the screen is the agenda.

15 Gerry, if you could pull up the agenda
16 on the screen, please?

17 GERARD KELLEHER: Yes.

18 JOHN ROMANO: And what we will do is I
19 will go through each item. I will ask the questions
20 of the proponents, just like I do in the hearing at
21 the office in person at 10 Park Plaza.

22 Just so you know, everybody in the
23 public is currently muted. In about two minutes, the
24 organizer is going to unmute everybody, and then you

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 should mute yourself at that time. Should the
2 organizer, who is Gerry Kelleher from MassDOT, hear
3 excessive background noise, he will mute people
4 individually or the whole group if needed.

5 If you would like to speak when public
6 comment is requested, you can unmute yourself at that
7 time. If you have any trouble unmuting yourself to
8 make a comment, you can use the raise your hand
9 function in GoToWebinar in order to indicate you would
10 like to make a comment. To raise your hand in
11 GoToWebinar, click the hand icon in the control panel.
12 If you are connected by phone to the audio, you can
13 press *9 to raise your hand. On the phone, you can
14 also press *1 to play the features menu and *2 to mute
15 or unmute audio.

16 You can also post your comments or
17 questions in the chat box. You will have a chance to
18 make comments just like you do in the regular public
19 hearing at the end of each item and then a final
20 chance for overall comments at the end of the agenda.

21 For anybody who may be new, we do not
22 make any decisions at this actual hearing. Each item
23 is taken under advisement and decisions are made
24 usually within a few weeks, sometimes as early as a

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 week, but we will give time for write-in comments to
2 our email address, which is
3 OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us. You can send in
4 comments in writing there as well.

5 With that, Gerry, if you can unmute
6 everybody, we will start.

7 GERARD KELLEHER: Can you see this
8 agenda?

9 JOHN ROMANO: I cannot. Oh, almost.

10 GERARD KELLEHER: Yeah.

11 JOHN ROMANO: It was there for a second
12 and then it went away. There it is.

13 GERARD KELLEHER: You've got it?

14 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, Gerry, if you
15 could go down to the next page?

16 GERARD KELLEHER: Sure. I'll try to
17 make it full screen.

18 JOHN ROMANO: There you go. That's
19 good for now.

20 So, we talked about sign-in.

21 The minutes from the previous meeting,
22 November 12, 2020, does anybody have any comments or
23 questions on the regular session minutes from November
24 12th?

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 (No response.)

2 JOHN ROMANO: I do not see anybody
3 raising their hand, nor do I see any chat.

4 Gerry, do you see anything in the chat
5 or any questions?

6 GERARD KELLEHER: No, I don't.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And, Gerry, did
8 you unmute everybody from your end?

9 GERARD KELLEHER: I believe so, yeah.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Okay. So, seeing
11 no comments or questions, I am going to mark the
12 minutes approved.

13 Okay. The first item that we have
14 today is a license application from Media Partners
15 MRV, LLC, 80 Washington Street, Building L, Norwell,
16 MA. The contact is Michael J. Verrochi, managing
17 partner.

18 Mr. Verrochi or a representative, are
19 you here with us today? You can unmute yourself.

20 (No response.)

21 GERARD KELLEHER: Do you know the name
22 of the person?

23 JOHN ROMANO: I think Neal Rossi might
24 be here with them -- for them.

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 GERARD KELLEHER: Here you go.

2 JOHN ROMANO: Neal, can you hear us?

3 NEAL ROSSI: I can hear you. Can you
4 hear me?

5 JOHN ROMANO: Yes, we can.

6 STENOGRAPHER: Who is speaking?

7 NEAL ROSSI: Okay. I am in attendance
8 with Mr. Verrochi as well.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Welcome,
10 gentlemen.

11 So, I've reviewed your application. It
12 appears that all your paperwork is in order. The
13 application is filled out correctly. Your W-9 has
14 been submitted. And your Certificate of Good Standing
15 and/or Tax Compliance has been submitted. And the
16 appropriate fee has been submitted to us. I don't see
17 any issues from a paperwork standpoint.

18 Do you guys have anything you'd like to
19 add to your application at this time?

20 NEAL ROSSI: No, I think we're fine,
21 sir. We submitted it and we're just waiting for your
22 decision.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you very
24 much.

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 Are there any comments or questions
2 from anybody in attendance about this application?

3 MICHAEL VERROCHI: No. This is Mike
4 Verrochi. Can you hear me?

5 NEAL ROSSI: Yes, they can hear you.

6 MICHAEL VERROCHI: Can you hear me?

7 NEAL ROSSI: Yes.

8 MICHAEL VERROCHI: Okay. Thank you
9 very much.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. The next item on
11 the agenda -- sorry, I don't have a lot of room to
12 maneuver stuff, so I apologize. Our next item here is
13 an application for a license, also, Entertainment
14 Cinemas Leominster, LLC, 7 Central Street, South
15 Easton, MA, William Haney. Is Mr. Haney or a
16 representative on the call today?

17 (No response.)

18 JOHN ROMANO: I don't know that they
19 were going to be. His lawyer is -- I don't see his
20 lawyer either. So, I don't see anybody and I don't
21 see anybody raising their hands.

22 Again, the paperwork was reviewed. All
23 of the application was filled out properly. The
24 appropriate forms, W-9, certificates of Tax Compliance

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 and Good Standing were submitted, and the appropriate
2 fee. We don't have any comments or questions as far
3 as the paperwork issue.

4 Are there any comments or questions
5 from anybody who is in attendance on this application?

6 (No response.)

7 JOHN ROMANO: I don't see any. I don't
8 see any in the chat. Nobody is raising their hands.

9 Gerry, do you see anybody? I don't see
10 anyone.

11 GERARD KELLEHER: No, I don't.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. We will take this
13 application for license under advisement and we will
14 get back to them.

15 Next is, as you can see, there is
16 several pages of applications for renewal of licenses,
17 permits, unlicensed permits, etc., electronic permits,
18 all received since the last meeting, which is par for
19 the course at this time of the year, as we're doing
20 renewals.

21 Does anybody have any questions or
22 comments on any of those? All the appropriate
23 paperwork, forms, and fees have been submitted. There
24 are no issues from our perspectives on any of these.

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 Any comments or questions?

2 (No response.)

3 JOHN ROMANO: Not seeing anybody's hand
4 raised, and I'm not seeing any comments. Okay.
5 Great.

6 Let's see. Next, For the Record,
7 actions taken since the last hearing. There's been a
8 couple new ones. The Canton applications were
9 approved. The Sharon applications are approved.
10 Everything else has been on the agenda for a while and
11 no actions have been taken on those.

12 Are there any comments or questions on
13 the For the Record part of the agenda?

14 (No response.)

15 JOHN ROMANO: I do not see anything in
16 the chat. I am not seeing any hands raised.

17 GERARD KELLEHER: I don't have anything
18 either.

19 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, we will move
20 on from that section, which will be public comment.
21 Is there any general public comment about anything at
22 all related to outdoor advertising?

23 (No response.)

24 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any hands

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 raised. I am not seeing anything in the chat. I'll
2 give it one moment. Last call for any comments or
3 questions.

4 (No response.)

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. No public comment
6 at this time.

7 So, I just want to reinforce with
8 everybody to continue to get your renewals in. Please
9 know that with us we are working remotely, as you all
10 know, as I know many of you are as well. So, you
11 know, while we usually get these in on a daily basis,
12 you know, Lydia is in the office several days a week.
13 We are processing them as fast as we can. She gets
14 them to me. I take them home. I review them. We
15 sign them. I've got to get them back to her. So, it
16 does take a little longer than maybe it normally
17 would. So, if you didn't see your renewal that you
18 may have recently sent in, it's probably in the pile.
19 I have a stack of them at my house that I need to
20 bring back to Lydia. She has another stack to give
21 me. So, we are getting through them. So, please,
22 thank you for your patience. We are getting through
23 them. And if you haven't yet sent it in, please do so
24 because they're coming in fast.

Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

1 We won't see you all until after the
2 first of the year. I hope everybody continues to stay
3 safe. It looks like there's good news on the vaccine
4 front.

5 I want to wish everybody a happy
6 holidays, a Merry Christmas, and good health in the
7 New Year to everybody.

8 Thank you all very much. We will see
9 you in January.

10 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
11 on December 10, 2020.)

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Office of Outdoor Advertising December 10, 2020

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Judith Luciano, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcription of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter to the best of my skill and ability.

Judith Luciano

Judith Luciano

**All names not provided were spelled phonetically to the best of my ability.

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