# MARYLAND REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

# 500 North Calvert Street Baltimore, MD 21202

Mission: Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public through examination, licensing, and regulatory activities regarding real estate

# BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES August 19, 2020 10:30 a.m.

(held via Google Meet)

#### **PRESENT:**

Commissioner Marla Johnson (Industry)

Commissioner Karen Baker (Consumer)

Commissioner Anne Cooke (Industry)

Commissioner Jeff Wright (Industry)

Charlene Faison, Education Director, Session Recorder

Michael Kasnic, Executive Director

Jillian Lord, Asst. Executive Director

Kimberly Ward, AAG

Commissioner Kambon Williams (Consumer)

Commissioner Michael Lord (Consumer)

Commissioner Michelle Wilson (Consumer)

#### **ABSENT:**

Commissioner J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair (Industry)

Commissioner Demetria Scott (Industry)

#### **PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

Kathie F. Connelly, Broker

Susan Mitchell, MR

Jason Brand, AACAR

Brenda Kasuva, MREEA

Karyn Keating-Volka, Assoc Broker, Berkshire Hathaway

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Jeff Wright, Vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM.

## REPORT OF COMPLAINTS/ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

Motion (made by Marla Johnson, seconded by Anne Cooke) To approve the Administrative Dismissals for the month of August 2020. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion (made by Karen Baker, seconded by Marla Johnson) To approve the minutes of the July 15, 2020 business meeting. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Education Demetria Scott, Education Chair
  - No comment Chair not present for meeting.
    - Susan Mitchell, Maryland Realtors, shared that sample ethics outline was sent to
      Education Director, Charlene Faison, which was shared with approved providers to use as
      a starting point for creating new ethics outline that contained the new professionalism
      elements.
- <u>Legislative</u> Marla Johnson, Legislative Chair
  - No comment

## **COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Michael Kasnic

- Current license count totals 47,975, of which 4,429 are brokers, 3,110 are associate brokers and 39,771 are salespersons, 148 are reciprocal brokers, 63 are reciprocal associate brokers, and 451 are reciprocal salesperson. Inactive total was not reported. There are 699 branch offices.
- Complaints continue to be received; averaging about 60 complaints per month.
- Enovational Continuing to meet with group and moving forward.
- Procurement Still working with them on the testing vendor contract; in the final stages of the review.
- Commission Wilson sent Mr. Kasnic an email; wants to follow up about what people are being told about extensions. It is confirmed extensions are being given and they should contact the Commission for an extension. The extension information is also on the Commission's website.

#### **COMMENTS FROM COUNSEL:** Kimberly Ward, AAG

• Ms. Ward has no report on behalf of Jessica Praley.

## **COMMENTS FROM CHAIR:** Jeff Wright, Vice-chair

- Commissioner Wright acknowledged Commissioner Johnson for being recognized in Realtor magazine for her efforts in helping her community with collection and distribution of supplies during COVID pandemic.
- Benefits of ARELLO conference and Commission College shared with newest Commissioners Lord and Wilson; Vice-chair encouraged them to attend.
- Decision on who attends 2020 ARELLO Annual Conference needs to be made. Mr. Kasnic
  confers to counsel for decision of if everyone allowed to attend the ARELLO conference
  since it is virtual this year; counsel to let Mr. Kasnic know by Monday.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Kimberly Ward, AAG, advises Commission that Jessica Praley was unable to locate information on the topic of title companies and Ms. Praley will provide an update upon her return at next month's meeting.
- Mr. Kasnic announces the date to submit legislation has passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

• Commission Cooke brought up an issue arisen from panel regarding an advertising complaint. She believes panels need guidance on how to move forward? Will warnings be sent? Mr. Kasnic responds advertising complaints should be handled like any other complaint.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:11 A.M. The next monthly business meeting is Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

| APPROVED AS PRESENTED |                                     |  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
|                       | J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chairperson |  |
| APPROVED AS AMENDED   |                                     |  |
|                       | J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chairperson |  |

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