

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

MINUTES WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 27, 2021

On Wednesday, October 27, 2021, the Maryland State Athletic Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman David Norman at 3:00 p.m.. Present were the following: Chairman Norman; Commissioner Brian Boles; Commissioner Chuck Gast (who joined the meeting at 3:15 p.m.); Commissioner Lenny Moore; Commissioner David Shull; Greg Morgan, Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (“O&P Division”), Maryland Department of Labor (“Department of Labor”); Patrick Pannella, Executive Director; Eric London, Assistant Attorney General and Counsel; and Olga Escobar, Board Specialist. This was a virtual meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic public restrictions, with all Commission members and Commission staff participating either virtually or telephonically.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commission minutes for the Commission meeting held on September 15, 2021, previously distributed to Commission members for review, were discussed.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Boles, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the September 15, 2021 minutes of the Commission.

SHABAZZ BROTHERZ, LLC - RENEWAL OF PROMOTER LICENSE

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the following report. Shabazz Brotherz, LLC (“Shabazz Brotherz”) recently applied to the Commission for the renewal of its promoter license as a promoter of professional boxing events in the State of Maryland.

Mr. Pannella noted that Shabazz Brotherz has been licensed by the Commission as a promoter in the past and has held several professional boxing events in the State of Maryland.

Commissioner Gast and Mr. Pannella recently interviewed Dwayne “Shabazz” Denham, the promoter representative for Shabazz Brotherz, as a condition of licensure. They reviewed the license application and corresponding documentation submitted by Mr. Denham on behalf of Shabazz Brotherz, and were satisfied that the promoter’s license application for this promoter applicant complies with the Commission’s licensing requirements.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Boles, and seconded by Commissioner Shull, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the licensure of Shabazz Brotherz, LLC as a promoter.

APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENTS

Executive Director Pannella led a Commission discussion in regard to the professional boxing events proposed to be held in the State of Maryland.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, seconded by Commissioner Moore, the Commission voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the following professional boxing event promoted by Jeter Promotions, LLC:

Saturday, February 19, 2022 - TBA (evening) Starting Time
The Hall at Live! Casino
7002 Arundel Mills Circle - Hanover, Maryland
Promoter: Jeter Promotions, LLC,
advertising as “Jeter Promotions”.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PASSING OF AL “HOLLYWOOD” MEGGETT OCTOBER 8, 2021

The Commission held a moment of silence in honor of Al “Hollywood” Meggett, a longtime professional boxing manager and trainer from Charleston, South Carolina, who was licensed by the Commission on several occasions and who passed away on October 8, 2021 at the age of 90.

Executive Director Pannella stated that Mr. Meggett made a productive difference

in the lives of the many at-risk youngsters who entered his boxing gym over the years and who learned from his tutelage, kindness, wisdom and example.

Mr. Pannella noted that Mr. Meggett had a very outgoing personality, kept in close contact with the Commission, and was fond of reflecting his positive attitude by typically ending his conversations with the phrase, “It’s all good if you’re Hollywood!”

REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 **PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an overview of the professional boxing event promoted by CyNation Sports, LLC, advertised as “CyNation Sports”, and held on September 25, 2021 at Rosecroft Raceway in Ft. Washington, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella stated that the professional boxing event included five boxing contests and 24 scheduled rounds of professional boxing competition.

Mr. Pannella opined that several of the boxing contests were very competitive.

Mr. Pannella reported that licensed promoter CyNation Sports, LLC and all participating Commission licensees complied with the Commission’s medical and administrative protocol requirements relative to COVID-19.

Mr. Pannella noted that, in complying with a directive of the Commission designed to assist licensed promoters of combative sports events, he was able to locate a medical center which performed “same day” COVID-19 testing.

REVIEW OF OCTOBER 16, 2021 **PROFESSIONAL MMA EVENT**

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an overview of the professional MMA event promoted by BBCorporation, advertised as “Stellar Fights”, and held on October 16, 2021 at The Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella stated that the professional MMA event included eight MMA contests and 24 scheduled rounds of professional MMA competition.

Mr. Pannella opined that several of the MMA contests were very competitive.

Mr. Pannella stated that this was the inaugural professional MMA event for the “Stellar Fights” series and the first professional MMA event ever held in Salisbury, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella reported that licensed promoter BB Corporation and all participating Commission licensees complied with the Commission’s medical and administrative protocol requirements relative to COVID-19.

Mr. Pannella noted that BB Corporation was able to provide “same day” COVID-19 testing on both October 15, 2021 and October 16, 2021 at a local medical facility for those licensees requiring such testing in compliance with the Commission’s medical and administrative protocols for COVID-19.

REVIEW OF OCTOBER 23, 2021 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an overview of the professional boxing event promoted by Jeter Promotions, LLC, advertised as “Jeter Promotions”, and held on October 23, 2021 at The Hall at Live! Casino in Hanover, Maryland.

Mr. Pannella stated that the professional boxing event included eight boxing contests and 48 scheduled rounds of professional boxing competition.

Mr. Pannella opined that several of the boxing contests were very competitive.

Mr. Pannella reported that licensed promoter Jeter Promotions and all participating Commission licensees complied with the Commission’s medical and administrative protocol requirements relative to COVID-19.

Mr. Pannella noted that Jeter Promotions was able to provide “same day” COVID-

19 testing at the October 22, 2021 weigh-in activity for this boxing event for those licensees requiring such testing in compliance with the Commission's medical and administrative protocols for COVID-19.

UPDATE ON NOVEMBER 6, 2021 PROFESSIONAL BOXING EVENT

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with an update on the professional boxing event being promoted by Shabazz Brotherz, LLC, being advertised as "Shabazz Brotherz", and being held on October 23, 2021 at The Patapsco Sports Arena in Baltimore, Maryland.

Chairman Norman noted that two sons and a nephew of former world heavyweight champion boxer Hasim Rahman are scheduled to compete on the card.

Mr. Pannella stated that this is the first time in many years that a professional boxing event is being held at The Patapsco Sports Arena, noting that the venue is very close to the I-95 corridor in Baltimore.

SCHEDULE OF COMMISSION-SANCTIONED EVENTS

Executive Director Pannella provided the Commission with the schedule of professional boxing, MMA and professional wrestling events currently sanctioned and regulated by the Commission.

COMMISSION OFFICE TO MOVE IN EARLY 2022

Commissioner Greg Morgan provided the Commission with the following overview concerning the upcoming move by the Department of Labor's O&P Division to the Department of Labor Building located at 1100 North Eutaw Street in Baltimore, Maryland.

The O&P Division will be physically moving its offices in January and/or February of 2022. The Commission will be located on the fifth floor of the building. Included in the floor plans is an office for Executive Director Pannella which is slightly larger than his current office and which will be able to safely store Commission files of a sensitive medical nature. Board Specialist Escobar will be

assigned an office directly across the hallway from, and adjacent to, Mr. Pannella's office. Ms. Escobar's office will also include adequate room for the storage of various Commission files.

The O&P Division will maintain a conference room on the fifth floor of the building which will be used for various board meetings and commission meetings, including Athletic Commission meetings.

Commissioner Morgan noted that, while the boards and commissions within the O&P Division will "always have a virtual component" to meetings to allow for board members and commission members to attend their respective meetings virtually, such members are welcome, and encouraged, to attend meetings in person as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Shull, and seconded by Commissioner Gast, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the meeting at 3:32 p.m..

/s/ David J. Norman
Chairman

Date: November 17, 2021