

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 17, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

Highlights from the meeting:

- Current license count is 41,602
- Guaranty fund balance for July - \$925, 228.26
- Maryland State Ethics Commission gave presentation

PRESENT:

Commissioner J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair (Industry)
Commissioner Marla Johnson (Industry)
Commissioner James Reeder (Consumer)
Commissioner Jeff Wright (Industry)
Commissioner Robin Pirtle (Consumer)
Commissioner Anne Cooke (Industry)
Commissioner Karen Baker (Consumer)
Paulette Wirsching, AAG
Katherine F. Connelly, Executive Director
Charlene Faison, Education Administrator, Session Recorder

ABSENT:

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Bill Castelli, MAR
Jill Byer, AACAR

CALL TO ORDER:

J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Representatives William Colquhoun and Jennifer Whitehead from Maryland State Ethics Commission gave one hour presentation prior to meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion (made by Marla Johnson, seconded by Jim Reeder) **To approve the minutes of the July 20, 2016 business meeting. Unanimous approval.**

REPORT OF COMPLAINTS/ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

Motion (made by Karen Baker, seconded by Marla Johnson) **To approve the Administrative Dismissals for the month of July 2016. Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Education – Jeff Wright
 - For the month of July 2016 PSI administered 907 salesperson and 47 broker exams, compared to 875 salesperson and 44 broker exams in July 2015.

2. Legislative – Marla Johnson, Legislative Chair

- No comment from Chair.
- Paulette Wirsching, AAG – Comment period for fee change regulation has expired; Brian Weeks will move forward with finalizing that; change will affect reactivation fee which would now be \$25 and remove the duplicate license fee.
- Mr. Castelli, MAR, advises that legislation regarding open houses to be drafted and will be given to MREC for review; asked if request to the seller disclosure form could include a box to check if there are no known latent defects in the disclaimer section; this request to be reviewed by MREC counsel.

COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Katherine F. Connelly

1. Current license count totals 41,602, of which 4,384 are brokers, 3,039 are associate brokers, 33,232 salespersons. Of the total count, 1,597 are inactive.
2. Guaranty fund balance for July - \$925,228.26 and we paid \$12,346 in claims for the month.
3. Agency training – In the Commissioner packets were three of the six documents that have been reviewed again and changes made. Ms. Connelly asked the Commissioners to review one final time.
4. There is no meeting in September.
5. Advertising issue was discussed with a broker and the ads will be amended.
6. There are two agency training session remaining – August 25th and September 11th. Currently Annapolis location full and Ocean city half full with a capacity of 70.
7. All reservations and registrations for Vancouver have been made.

COMMENTS FROM COUNSEL: Paulette Wirsching

1. No comment

COMMENTS FROM CHAIR: J. Nicholas D’Ambrosia

- Chair D’Ambrosia will be speaking at Anne Arundel County Association of Realtors in September.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M. The next monthly business meeting is Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED _____
J. Nicholas D’Ambrosia, Chairperson

APPROVED AS AMENDED _____
J. Nicholas D’Ambrosia, Chairperson