

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
July 20, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

Highlights from the meeting:

- Current license count is 41, 338
- Guaranty fund balance for May - \$948,036.01
- Guaranty fund balance for June - \$930,359.17

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)
Brian Weeks, AAG
Katherine F. Connelly, Executive Director
Charlene Faison, Education Administrator, Session Recorder

ABSENT:

Commissioner Karen Baker (Consumer)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Feinroth, MAR
Robert Johnston, AACAR

CALL TO ORDER:

J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion (made by Marla Johnson, seconded by Robin Pirtle) **To approve the minutes of the June 15, 2016 business meeting. Unanimous approval.**

REPORT OF COMPLAINTS/ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Education – Jeff Wright

- For the month of June 2016 PSI administered 958 salesperson and 62 broker exams, compared to 924 salesperson and 48 broker exams in June 2015.

2. Legislative – Marla Johnson, Legislative Chair

- No legislative updates to report.
- Raised the question of if we have a number of complaints that involve property management.
- Brian Weeks, AAG, submitted concept sheet for the one bill that's being submitted for the department. The bill is to close the loophole for inactive/expired licenses.

COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Katherine F. Connelly

1. Current license count totals 41,438, of which 4,344 are brokers, 3,029 are associate brokers, 33,077 salespersons. Of the total count, 1,585 are inactive.
2. Guaranty fund balance for May - \$948,036.01 and we paid \$0 in claims for the month. For June - \$930,359.17 and claims paid for the month is \$26,566.30.
3. Agency training – The second task force meeting will be held on July 26th. The outline and PowerPoint are completed and will be given out to the instructors and trainers. Trainings have been scheduled for August 2nd, August 25th and September 11th.
4. Cancelled trip to the subject matter experts meeting with PSI as September is the ARELLO meetings and the MAR Conference and the last agency training.
5. Next month the Ethics Commission will be attending our meeting and giving a one hour presentation to all Commissioners.
6. The open house sign needs to be discussed. It has been revised based on the fact no agency disclosure form will be given out to the prospective purchasers.
7. Commissioners being allowed to teach – Secretary's Office said they would take a position until they see the drafted legislation.
8. Question was raised at last month's meeting of how many distance learning courses are approved. We have a total of 1603 current course with 246 of them being distance learning.
9. Understanding Whom Real Estate Agents Represent form reviewed and revisions made.
10. September meeting cancelled due to MAR meeting schedule conflict.

COMMENTS FROM COUNSEL: Brian Weeks

1. The fee reduction regulation was published in the MD Register. The period for public comment runs until August 8th.
2. Final list of regulations to be amended was submitted to Victoria Wilkerson, DLLR Commissioner.
3. Mr. Weeks met with Commissioner Wilkerson to go over the list. There were approximately six that were further amended.
4. A Maryland course provider is applying for exemption from being regulated by MHEC.
5. Question received by Office of Financial Regulation licensing commission via a third party company. Brian seeks response from MREC.

COMMENTS FROM CHAIR: J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia

- Chair D'Ambrosia made revisions to the committee assignments; panel members will remain the same.

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, August 17, 2016.

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

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