

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
May 20, 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)
Commissioner J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair (Industry)
Commissioner Demetria Scott (Industry)
Charlene Faison, Education Director, Session Recorder
Michael Kasnic, Executive Director
Jillian Lord, Asst. Executive Director
Jessica Praley, AAG
Commissioner Kambon Williams (Consumer)
Victoria Wilkins, Commissioner

ABSENT:

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Susan Mitchell, MR
Kathie Connelly, Broker
David Politzer, Keller Williams Legacy
Jenifer League, GBBR
Brenda Kasuva, MREEA
Candace Fontz, Douglas Realty, LLC
Bob Kimball, Redfin
Nakia Evans, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Tiara Satchell, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Marie McFarland, Coastal Association of Realtors
Two call-ins

CALL TO ORDER:

J. Nicholas D'Ambrosia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM

REPORT OF COMPLAINTS/ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

Motion (made by Jeff Wright, seconded by Marla Johnson) **To approve the Administrative Dismissals for the month of March and May 2020. Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion (made by Jeff Wright, seconded by Karen Baker **To approve the minutes, of the February 19, 2020 business meeting.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Education
 - Issued an interim response to courses as a result of COVID-19
 - Licenses extended until thirty (30) days after the Governor’s order is lifted
 - Pre-licensing – Issued guidance
 - CE – Changes to guidance made in last ten (10) days
 - Zoom – Okay for pre-licensing; not allowed to use for testing at the end of the course
 - Incrementally moving expiration dates; this is being done by IT
 - Chair thanks education staff and Michael Kasnic
 - Motion made by Demetria Scott, seconded by Jeff Wright to enter pass rate date into record without reading aloud.
 - For the month of March 2020, 628 salesperson exams were administered, compared to 1059 in March 2019. For the month of March 2020, 42 broker exams were administered compared to 77 in March 2019
- Legislative – Marla Johnson, Legislative Chair
 - Commissioner Johnson has no comments.
 - Susan Mitchell, Maryland Realtors (MR)
 - Up to date on bills MR is following from last meeting
 - CE has been a big issue; everyone has been worried about a backlog of testing by PSI
 - Chair Johnson asks is legislature has plans to come back or will they just hold out until next session.
 - AAG Jessica Praley
 - Bill about military applicants did pass.
 - Chair D’Ambrosia inquired about the status of the one-click; Counsel responds that she and Mr. Kasnic need to sit and work together to get that up and running

COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Michael Kasnic

- Current license count totals 47,033, of which 4,389 are brokers, 3,093 are associate brokers and 38,919 are salespersons, 143 are reciprocal brokers, 62 are reciprocal associate brokers, and 427 are reciprocal salesperson. Inactive total was not reported. There are 689 branch offices.
- There’s a downward trend in complaints

COMMENTS FROM COUNSEL: Jessica Praley, AAG

- Ms. Praley already gave legal update of bills.
- Counsel thanks staff for putting meeting together and all other tasks completed while working from home
- Applications, renewals, etc. are being accepted. Information was made clear to the public
- Two regulations (COMAR 09.11.01.09 and 09.11.01.12) have come up regarding deadlines; counsel recommends a blanket extension as opposed to case by case basis
 - Chair D’Ambrosia raises questions of one-year limitation to take exam or to apply for exam
 - Education Director, Charlene Faison, suggested providing counsel with a perspective number of persons looking at needing extensions so she may make a suggestion about how to handle extensions under the order

COMMENTS FROM CHAIR: J. Nicholas D’Ambrosia

- Chair has been following what the future of real estate will look like; made mention of states that have or have not shut down since the pandemic
- Chair thanked everyone for their hard work to keep the integrity and work of the Commission going

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Emergency education changes; schools need to reach out to the education director regarding what platform they’ll be using
- ARELLO update – Jeff gave update about mid-year conference; Charlene Faison and Anne Cooke also attended various sessions

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 A.M. The next monthly business meeting is Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

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

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