

Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission

August 28, 2014

Minutes

A meeting of the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission was held on Thursday, August 28, 2014 at Presque Isle Downs in Erie, PA, at 3:30 P.M.

In attendance representing the Commission were Alan Novak, Chairman; Walt Remmert, Acting Executive Secretary of Horse Racing; Jorge Augusto, Legal Counsel. Representing the PA Department of Agriculture as an Ex-Officio Member of the Commission was Mathew Meals, Deputy Secretary and by phone Dr. Corinne Sweeney, Commissioner.

Chairman Alan Novak called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

Chairman Novak stated that the Commission held an executive session in which the Commission discussed personal matters. No other agency business was transacted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney, seconded by Chairman Novak, and unanimously passed, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2014, commission meeting.

OLD BUSINESS (STATISTICAL REPORTS)

Chairman Novak requested the statistical highlights for the past month.

Parx Racing

Joe Wilson, Chief Operating Officer, reported the previous months and year to date statistics. Mr. Wilson noted that the barn construction is continuing and soon four of the six barns slated to be built this year will be done. Owners Appreciation day went well and coming up is Smarty Jones Day. Mr. Wilson stated that next week will be PA Day at the Races. Third Party Lasix has begun at Parx. Commissioner Sweeney thanked Parx for their effort to get it started.

California Chrome, Kentucky Derby winner will be coming to Parx to race in the \$1M Pennsylvania Derby, following Untapable, the Kentucky Oaks winner in the \$1M Cotillion Stakes.

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Michael Ballezzi, Executive Director of PTHA, was not present and no oral report was given.

Penn National Race Course

Eric Johnston, Director of Racing, reported on the previous months and year to date statistic totals. Mr. Johnston noted that their Owners Appreciation day was coming up with a special post time of 5:00. The dormitories are still waiting on the permits to finish building.

Presque Isle Downs & Racetrack

Debbie Howells, Director of Racing for Presque Isle Downs, reported on the previous month and year to date statistical totals. Ms. Howells noted that a mystery voucher program was held on July 11th and 12th. About 127,000 tickets were mailed out with a total \$1.297M, over the two days about 16,408 tickets were redeemed for about \$182,720. September 7th and 8th are the Presque Isle Mile and the Presque Isle Downs Masters Stakes races.

PA Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association

Todd Mostoller, Executive Director of the PA HBPA, raised some concerns to the Commission about the "No Cash," policy and how it was not good for the industry as a whole. Other alternatives needed to be looked into such as being able to accept credit cards.

Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association

Brian Sanfratello, President, for the PHBA, was not present and no oral report was given.

RESEARCH

Dr. Mary Robinson, Acting Director of the Pennsylvania Equine Toxicology and Research Lab, and of the University of Pennsylvania, was not present and no report was given.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER

Deborah Tsang, Quality Assurance Officer, was not present and no report was given.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney, seconded by Chairman Novak and unanimously passed to approve item 5.a.(1); approval of the thoroughbred full race card simulcast schedules for the month of September 2014 at Penn National, Parx Racing, and Presque Isle Downs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Chairman Novak and passed to approve item 5.a.(2)¹; approval of the harness full race card simulcast schedules for the

¹Concerning Item 5.a. (2); "Consideration for approval of the Harness full race card simulcast schedules for the month of September 2014, at The Meadows, Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs and Harrah's Philadelphia. Approval is pending submission of the fully executed simulcast agreements to the Commission Office." Chairman Alan Novak abstained from voting on this item due to a business relationship with The Meadows.

month of September 2014, at The Meadows, Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs, and Harrah's Philadelphia Casino and Racetrack.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Chairman Novak and unanimously passed to approve item 5.b. (1); Ratification of the request from Parx Racing to add a new simulcast location of Wyoming Downs, located in Evanston, Wyoming.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Chairman Novak and unanimously passed to approve item 5.b. (2); Ratification of the request from Penn National for approval to send its simulcast signal to Horse Races Now, customer code HRN, Hub United Tote, Portland.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Chairman Novak and unanimously passed to approve item 5.b. (3); Penn National requests approval to send its simulcast signal of live races to Hawthorne Racecourse Code, HWA, Hub Sport Tech, QOC East.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Novak announced the next commission meeting will be held September 11, 2014, at New Bolton Center, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

Executive Session: 10:30 A.M. in Allam House
Public Meeting: 11:30 A.M. in Woerner Amphitheater

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Novak adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Walt Remmert
Acting Executive Secretary