

FINAL MINUTES

Charitable Gaming Board – Game Variance Workgroup
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)
Pop’s Bingo World
210 Giant Drive
Richmond, Virginia
Tuesday, July 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. James Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m.

Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Michael Menefee to call the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. James Lewis, Chair
The Honorable William Feasenmyer
Ms. Lea Roberts
Mr. Charles Lessin, Ex Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

VDACS STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Michael Menefee, Program Manager, Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs

Mr. Menefee informed Mr. Lewis that a quorum was present.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Lewis welcomed members and the public to the meeting of the Game Variance Workgroup. Mr. Lewis stated the workgroup received its first two applications requesting approval for a game variance. He further stated the workgroup will need to discuss at a later meeting how to protect proprietary information submitted to it by applicants from disclosure under Virginia’s Freedom of Information Act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the March 10, 2020, workgroup meeting. Ms. Lea Roberts motioned approval of the draft minutes as presented. The Honorable William Feasenmyer seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

With no old business before the workgroup, Mr. Lewis moved onto new business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Menefee to explain the two applications requesting approval for a game variance. Mr. Menefee informed members that one application dealt with remote play of electronic pull-tab tickets and the other application dealt with an automatic play feature for electronic pull-tab devices. An automatic play feature allows a player to purchase multiple electronic pull-tab tickets at one time and shortly thereafter, the device will automatically open each purchased ticket without the need for the player to interact with the device to open each purchased ticket. Mr. Menefee stated that both applications were submitted by Powerhouse Gaming, Inc. for the workgroup’s consideration. Mr. Lewis stated that the applicant missed the submission deadline for the workgroup to consider the applications during this particular meeting, but he stated the workgroup will review the content of each application anyhow. After reviewing the applications, Mr. Lewis made a motion to defer action of the application on remote play, which the motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts and it passed by a unanimous vote. Mr. Lewis made another motion to defer action of the application on the automatic play feature until its August meeting in order to consider developing rules for this particular game variance such as allowing the player to pause the automatic play feature or how to handle a refund if a player opts to pause automatic play and terminate play shortly thereafter. Mr. Lewis asked whether a member had any new business for the workgroup. With no new business from any of the members, Mr. Lewis moved onto public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lewis reminded members of the upcoming workgroup meeting on August 11, 2020, in Richmond.

With no comments from the public and there being no further business, the workgroup adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Menefee
Program Manager
Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs