

Maryland Alliance for Responsible Gambling  
September 27, 2010  
Maryland Lottery, 1p

Attendees: Jennifer Kelley (MSLA), Stephen Martino (MSLA), Charles LaBoy (MSLA), Gray Barton (MD Judiciary), Bonnie Cosgrove (DPSCS), Sen. Kathy Klausmeier (MD Senate), Joe Cavilla (Ocean Downs), Bill Hayles (Hollywood), Keith Crede (Hollywood), Joanna Franklin (MD Council), Eugenia Conolly (DHMH-ADAA), Renata Henry (DHMH), Rob Norton (Maryland Live!), Del. Kirill Reznik (MD House of Delegates)

Stephen Martino called the meeting to order.

Introductions of all parties present.

- \*new members – Charles LaBoy, Maryland Lottery Assistant Director for Gaming.  
Rob Norton, Maryland Live! General Manager

Agenda reviewed.

Renata Henry from DHMH provided an update of DHMH activities.

- DHMH submitted their JCR (Joint Chairman's Report) to the legislature. The legislature now has 45 days to review, ask questions, request changes. The JCR includes information from the Gambling Prevalence study conducted by DHMH, as well as recommendations for a Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling. The Center will be established and requests for "home" for the Center will be done through an RFP process. The Center would possibly include a 24-hour call center, statewide trainings for clinicians, materials creation, potential research, and would look to support MARG with training and presentations.

Stephen Martino and Jennifer Kelley from the Lottery provided an update of Lottery activities.

- The Voluntary Exclusion Program currently has 42 participants and has steadily grown since press conference in May.
- A violation of the Voluntary Exclusion Program occurred at Ocean Downs Casino on Memorial Day weekend. The trial was scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup>, but was postponed due to the defendant not having counsel present. It has been rescheduled for Oct. 14 @ 1:30p.

\*\* Should MARG do any press about this trial?

- All casinos will now have RG awareness materials on the floor (brochures, wallet cards, decal stickers on machines).
- The Lottery is exploring the idea of a traditional lottery voluntary exclusion program. Currently looking at models from Iowa and Illinois (only 2 states with similar programs), exploring legal, tax, infrastructure issues.

Bonnie Cosgrove from the DPSCS provided an update of DPSCS activities.

- DPSCS would like to get a better idea on how prevalent gambling is within prison population.
  - Interested in working with DHMH on getting clinical staff within the prison system trained.
  - Also would like to have materials that can be included in prisoner release packets.

Joanna Franklin from the MD Council provided an update of MD Council activities.

- The Council had a variety of materials to share with members, particularly DPSCS and MD Judiciary.
- Shared the employee training they conduct in PA w/ the casino GMs and Lottery staff.
- Announced that on Nov. 17 & 18 there will be a 2-day training in DC on Problem Gambling.
- Reminded folks about the Tuerk Conference coming up in April 2012.
- The 1-800 is now being answered in state M-F from 8-5; all other times answered by the National Call Center in Louisiana.
- Reported that 40% of callers to the helpline are actually seeking help.

Gray Barton from the MD Judiciary provided an update of MD Judiciary activities.

- Shared that there will be a 2-day symposium in the Spring and a Judicial training as potential opportunities for MARG partners to provide resource information to judicial parties.
- Would be interested in about 30 packets of RG materials to share with drug court staff.

Renata Henry asked if we should MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education) present in MARG?

Sen. Klausmeier from the MD Senate provided an update of Senate activities.

- Plans to submit table game legislation in the new 2012 session.

Del. Reznik from the MD House of Delegates provided an update of Delegation activities.

- Reminded the group that beginning Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature would be in Special Session for a few days.
- Also suggested that perhaps Stephen (MSLA) and Renate (DHMH) do a briefing to the legislature at the beginning of the 2012 regular session.

VLT facilities:

- Joe Cavilla from the Casino at Ocean Downs reported that all is going well. They just finished racing season and the challenges of various age requirements at the facility. Looking forward towards their 1 year anniversary.
- Bill Hayles from Hollywood Casino Perryville reported that all is going well. They participated in Responsible Gaming Awareness Week with their parent company Penn National. Their activities included Hollywood Casino Perryville day at the Ironbirds game, a property-employee competition, and some media coverage. They were celebrating their 1-year anniversary.
- Rob Norton from Maryland Live! reported that they are getting things underway. Still scheduled to open in June 2012, working on construction and hiring currently.

Open Discussion:

- Should MARG reach out to bingo operators? What is their role in the state, etc?

Next meeting: Eye towards legislation. Hollywood Casino Perryville will be hosting. Tentative date: Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>.