**Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration**

**District of Columbia Real Estate Commission**

**March 9, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

The District of Columbia Real Estate Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 10:00 am via virtual.

The meeting was called to order by Frank Pietranton, Chair, at 10:11 am, and attendance was taken.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Frank Pietranton, Ulani Gulstone, Ericka Black, Elizabeth Blakeslee, Joseph Borger, Edward Downs, Christine Warnke; Monique Owens

Board Members Absent: David Forster

Staff: Stacey Williams, Program Support Specialist; Leon Lewis, Executive Director; Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator; Jocelyn Reyes, Program Support Specialist; Kathy Thomas, Education Coordinator; Asia Dumas, Investigator; Cynthia Briggs, Program Manager

Legal Counsel: Keith Parsons, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel

Public Members: Cherice Clark, Joe Quinn, Kiesha Jones, Aida Bode, Melissa Lamanna, Richard Benswanger, Luciene Van Doornik, Ruma Sikka, Sam James, William Donaldson, JC Hooker, Michael Mullings, Otoniel “Tony” Larios, Julie Tam Michael Ares, Dean Dillard, Wanda Price

**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public**

Dean Dillard wanted to know when renewal applications will become available. Renewal applications will become available when the Mayor’s Order Title III, Section 312 of the “COVID-19 Response Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, “the Act” is over. All renewing real estate licensees will be sent notices in advance.

Ruma Sikka asked which providers offer the DC Fair Housing required course. Stacey Williams will send the link to the list of approved providers.

**Agenda Item: Executive Session**

At approximately 11:17 am, the following motion was made:

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Ms. Black, the Commission unanimously voted to enter into closed session pursuant to the authority of D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b)(4)(A) to seek the advice of counsel, D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b)(9) to discuss disciplinary

matters, and D.C. Official Code Section 2-775(b)(13) to deliberate upon a decision in an adjudication action or proceeding and to discuss:

Complaints and technical applications.

The public session of the meeting was resumed at 12:19 pm and attendance was taken.

**Agenda Item: Draft Minutes, February 9, 2021**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Warnke and properly seconded by Mr. Downs, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the draft minutes dated February 9, 2021.

**Agenda Item: Application for Licensure Recommendations**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Blakeslee and properly seconded by Mr. Borger, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the March 9, 2021, Application List administratively approved by OPLA staff, attached hereto and made a part of the March 9, 2021, minutes.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Downs and properly seconded by Ms. Black, the Commission voted to approve the following recommendations made during the executive session:

1. Approve Joseph Costantini’s reciprocity application for a Salesperson license.
2. Approve Jared Maites’ reciprocity application for a Salesperson.
3. Defer Margarita Grishkoff’s examination application for a Salesperson to next months meeting for further review and to apply the new legislation.

**Agenda Item: Complaints and Legal Matters**

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Borger and properly seconded by Ms. Blakeslee, the Commission unanimously voted to accept the following Legal recommendations:

1. In the matter of Justin McNair/Andrea Par v. Theodore Pindell – close, no violation
2. In the matter of Kisha Martin-Burney/Holly Worthington/Kimberly Harris v. Ronda Wood Johnson – close, no violation.
3. In the matter of Jessica Perkins v. Eric Swalwell/Brittany Swalwell – forward to investigation per 17 DCMR 2609.13 disclosure

**Agenda Item: Education Committee Report**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Borger and properly seconded by Ms. Blakeslee, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Education Committee Report, attached hereto and made a part of the March 9, 2021, minutes.

It was announced that Joe Borger has become a part of the Education Committee.

**Agenda Item: Correspondence**

Frank and Elizabeth drafted the response to the proposal from Vincent Parker regarding eliminating barriers to licensure in the District of Columbia for incoming licensees from other jurisdictions and modifying law and regulatory reciprocity requirements. Any suggested revisions can be submitted to Frank or Stacey.

Performance Oversight Hearing will be held on March 18, 2021 virtually. Commission staff are currently working on the pre-hearing questions.

**Agenda Item: Old Business**

None.

**Agenda Item: New Business**

Kevin Cyrus reported that the Fair Housing Development Workshop, which was held on February 24, 2021 was a success. There were 30 participants, some of which were from the commission. DCRA will be working with the National Fair Housing Alliance in the future. Mr. Lewis expressed appreciation to Mr. Cyrus on the excellent coordination of the workshop and Ms. Williams on her tremendous assistance with the slide presentation.

The updated newsletter was distributed to the Commission members for review. Minor revisions were suggested from the commissioners.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Blakeslee and properly seconded by Mr. Downs, the Commission unanimously voted to assess renewing real estate licensees $60.00 to be deposited into the Real Estate Guaranty and Education Fund per 17 DCMR Subsection 2704.5 and 2704.1for the current renewal cycles only.

Accounting Clarification for Real Estate Professionals Amendment Act of 2020 was discussed for information purposes. It will be published in the upcoming newsletter for real estate licensees regarding the payment of commissions and fees to registered DC legal entities. …. I could not remember what the commission talked about for this agenda item.

Commission members were given the legislation regarding the Removing Barriers to Occupational Licensing for Returning Citizens Amendment Act (DC Act 23-561) and was notified that it was passed and goes into effect on March 15, 2021.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Blakeslee and properly seconded by Mr. Downs, the Commission unanimously voted to allow commission member Frank Pietranton, Edward Downs, Ulani Gulstone, Elizabeth Blakeslee, Ericka Black, Monique Owens, and appropriate DCRA staff to attend the ARELLO Mid-Year Meeting from June 30 to July 3, 2021.

**Agenda Item: Next Meeting**

The next scheduled regular meeting is April 13, 2021, via WebEx.

**Agenda Item: Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Mr. Borger, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Pietranton, Chair

Date: April 13, 2021

Recorder/transcriber: Stacey Williams