



**Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection
Occupational and Professional Licensing
District of Columbia Combat Sports Commission**

**May 10, 2023
Minutes**

The District of Columbia Combat Sports Commission held its scheduled monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, via Webex Teleconference.

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The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Huff at **12:11 pm** and attendance was taken.

Commission Members Present: **Commission Chairman Andrew Huff, Commissioner Christopher Jenkins, Commissioner Shawn Townsend, Commissioner Kim Lockett, and Commissioner Roger Mitchell, M.D.**

Commission Members Absent: **None**

Staff Members Present: **Skip Brown – Deputy Commissioner, Marc Nielsen – Legal Counsel, Justin Orrison – Legal Counsel, Jacqueline Noisette – Interim Program Manager, OPL and Kimberly Troxler – Program Specialist**

Staff Members Absent: **Nicole McClendon – Program Coordinator**

Agenda Item: Comments from the Commission

- Commissioner Lockett – Announced she will be attending the New Diamond Gloves reception on Tuesday, May 16th. New Diamond Gloves is a non-profit started by a group of women in the boxing community that provide aid and assistance to youths. Deputy Commissioner Brown also plans to attend.
- Commissioner Mitchell – Offered congratulations to the Commission on a job well done in regard to the Beltway Battle boxing event on May 5th. He commented that the level of competition in the bouts was some of the best he's seen on the local scene. Suggest we provide feedback to Promoters, so they'll know the level of competition we expect to see versus the 1st round knockouts we've seen in the past.
- Chairman Huff – Agreed, giving kudos to Deputy Commissioner Brown for his hard work in putting the bouts together.
- Deputy Commissioner Brown – Although the Commission approves the bouts, the matchups are initiated by the Matchmakers and the Promoters. Suggests we need to ensure that Matchmakers provide a list of solid fighters, so we don't end up with mismatched bouts. And we also need to applaud those Matchmakers when the bouts are stellar.

Agenda Item: Comments from the Public

- Wayne Smith – First-time attendee. Came to learn and observe.
- Joseph Cooper – Acknowledged it was a good show and said thank you.
- Juan Davis – Local Martial Artist who goes by the name Grand Master Juan Davis or Sensei Juan Davis, first time attending a Commission meeting. Came to learn and observe.
- Tammye Smith – No comment.

Agenda Item: Executive Session – Closed to the Public

- We will now go into executive session, which is closed to the public, in order to consult with our attorneys to seek legal advice; to discuss disciplinary matters; and to deliberate upon decisions in adjudication actions and proceedings, as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A), § 2-575(b)(9), and § 2-575(b)(13). We will resume the public portion of the meeting at the conclusion of the executive session. Please stand by for our return if you are participating online.

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Mitchell, and properly seconded by Commissioner Lockett, the Commission unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes:

- April 14th Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Jenkins and properly seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2023.

Agenda Item: Old Business:

- **Draft Language Concerning Permit Deadlines** – Deputy Commissioner Brown and Legal Counsel Marc Nielsen drafted some language from the regs concerning the actions that should be taken against promoters who don't comply with the deadline for submitting permit documents 30 days before the event. Should the bouts then be postponed? Do we issue a warning, resulting in actions taken or fines after the fact, not to impede the event? Chairman Huff suggested maybe offering an incentive for meeting the deadlines. Commissioner Lockett says she's been dealing with this issue since becoming a Commissioner. Promoters don't meet the deadlines and then complain to City Officials to get their way. Further discussion is recommended.
- **Grant Making Application** – \$100K in funding for community grants to support youth anti-violence programs. Commissioner Lockett suggests the grant be named in honor of Buddy Harrison. Program Specialist Kimberly Troxler circulated a list of questions to put on the application for the Commission to consider. Will further discuss this at the next meeting.

Agenda Item: New Business:

- **Beltway Battle Recap** – It was a good show with competitive bouts. Will send feedback to the promoter.



Agenda Item: Events to Approve:

- **Rising Star Entertainment – Saturday, June 24th @ the Entertainment Sports Arena (ESA)**
Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Lockett and properly seconded by Commissioner Jenkins, the Commission unanimously voted to approve this event contingent upon the receipt of all requested documents.

Agenda Item: Adjournment:

- The meeting ended at 1:06.

The Next Scheduled Regular Meeting is **Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at noon** via Teleconference/Webex.

Respectfully submitted,

Commission Chairman

Date

Minutes Recorded & Prepared by: Kimberly Troxler, DLCP/OPL Program Specialist