



Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration

District of Columbia Real Estate Commission

September 13, 2022

Meeting Minutes

The District of Columbia Real Estate Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 10:00 am via virtual.

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

Attendance

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

Staff: Stacey Williams, Board Administrator; Leon Lewis, Program Coordinator/Executive; Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator; Brittney Cheshier, Program Support Specialist; Kendra Covington, Program Support Specialist; Jahmai Jefferson, Program Support Specialist; Cynthia Briggs, Program Manager

Legal Counsel: James Patrick White, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel

Public Members: JC Hooker, Roman Daless, Elmira Jones, Rima Alazar, Lynne Feingold, Karla Rhodes, Jackie McNally, Anne Coons, Anthony McDuffie, Toni Larios, David Cox, and other public consumers that cannot be identified through WebEx.

Agenda Item: Comments from the Public

Ms. Lynne Feingold attended to get further information regarding a complaint that was filed. She was instructed to submit a Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) request to get more information or to seek private legal counsel.

Agenda Item: Executive Session

At approximately 11:41 am, the following motion was made:

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Borger 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 1:10 pm.

Agenda Item: Draft Minutes, July 12, 2022

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Borger and properly seconded by Ms. Owens, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the draft minutes dated July 12, 2022, with one revision.

Agenda Item: Application for Licensure Recommendations

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Ms. Black, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the September 13, 2022, Application List administratively approved by OPLA staff, attached hereto and made a part of the September 13, 2022, minutes.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Ms. Black, the Commission voted to defer the technical application to next month's meeting.

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 Amal Azzam vs Jasmyen Porter – close, no action.
2. In the matter of Charlotte Brown vs Annette Fleming – refer to Office of Human Rights.
3. In the matter of Fletcher Gill vs Kenneth Johnson – forward to Consumer Protection Unit.
4. In the matter of Justin Hattan vs Maria Reddick – defer to next meeting

Agenda Item: Education Committee Report

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Blakeslee and properly seconded by Mr. Downs, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Education Committee Report, attached hereto and made a part of September 13, 2022, minutes.

Agenda Item: Budget Update

The Commission members were notified of the current balance available in the Education and Guaranty Fund.

Agenda Item: Correspondence

None.

Agenda Item: Old Business

Current licensees were offered free continuing education seminars that are on-going until September 30, 2022.

Kevin Cyrus is continuing to work on the Newsletter Publication, any additional information will be accepted. The anticipated completion date will be by the end of September 2022.

Board member Joe Borger and board attorney Patrick White will be drafting the notice to license Property Management Firms.

Agenda Item: New Business

ARELLO Annual Meeting Report.

Ulani Gulstone, Elizabeth Blakeslee, and Kevin Cyrus attended the ARELLO Annual Conference in Nashville, Tennessee from August 29-September 2. The attendees reported that it was an excellent meeting. Commission members Ed Downs and Elizabeth Blakeslee were voted in as District Vice President and Director, respectively. Ms. Gulstone reported that she attended several legal sessions and updates were given. The District of Columbia Commission was selected as the winner of the **Fair Housing Award** in Instructor Development. Chairman Pietranton expressed appreciation to the members and the hard work that the staff members had done over this year and for many years. Ms. Gulstone was recognized for her work in fair housing having chaired the ARELLO Fair Housing Committee. Mr. Cyrus presented the Instructor Development Program to the Fair Housing Committee and to all the attendees. Mr. Lewis expressed appreciation to the Commission for its sponsorship of fair housing courses for its licensees over many years, and to all the OPLA staff for their contributions in support of the Commission on fair housing in the District of Columbia for so many years.

Commission members were informed that Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) will be splitting into 2 agencies starting October 1, 2022; Department of Building (DOB) and Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP). The commission will continue to operate under DLCP. During this transition, while the building is undergoing renovations, all staff members will be working remotely.

Historic Preservation Report

Commission members Elizabeth Blakeslee and Ed Downs, along with Leon Lewis, attended the Commission-sponsored Historic Preservation Seminars. The attendees reported that the presentations were excellent and received well at the newly renovated Martin Luther King Memorial Library on September 9, 2022.

The Commission was informed that starting October 1st all licensing fees will revert back to its original amount for all license types.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Mr. Borger, the Commission unanimously voted to add an attestation statement for the upcoming renewal continuing education requirements and not require licensees to upload completion certificates.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Borger and properly seconded by Ms. Owens, the Commission unanimously voted to allow Edward Downs, Elizabeth Blakeslee and Ulani Gulstone to attend the 2023 Leadership Symposium in Henderson, Nevada on January 9-11, 2023.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Downs and properly seconded by Ms. Gulstone, the Commission unanimously voted to allow Elizabeth Blakeslee, Edward Downs, Ericka Black, Patrick White and any other appropriate staff (including investigators) to attend the 2022 Regulatory Investigation Seminar in Raleigh, North Carolina on November 1-3, 2022.

Agenda Item: Next Meeting

The next scheduled regular meeting is October 11, 2022, via WebEx.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Black and properly seconded by Mr. Downs, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Pietranton, Chair
Date: October 11, 2022

Recorder/transcriber: Stacey Price (Williams)