

CASINO REVENUE FUND ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING ON March 10, 2017

MINUTES OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Casino Revenue Fund Advisory Commission was held on Friday, March 10, 2017 at the State House Annex. Those in attendance were:

Members:

Jim Thebery, Chair NJACDS
Tina Zsenak, Vice Chair – DHS/DOAS
Jim Carney, Seniors
Peggy Carrigg, Seniors Hudson
Bill Murray for Sen. Addiego
Lisa Tulley, NJ Transit
Andrea Katz – Asm. Mazzeo
Maureen Bergeron, NJ4A
Derek DeLuca, for Asm. Brown

Guests:

Sharon Harrington

Support:

Desmond Webb, Treasury
Karen Storcella, Treasury

Jim opened the meeting followed by the flag salute by Jim Carney.

Minutes for the January 13, 2017 meeting approved.

ALL EMAILS TO JIM THEBERY (REGARDING ANNUAL REPORT) DUE BY MAY 1ST

Membership:

Introduction of committee and guests were announced.

Handouts/Articles reviewed:

Article 1) Sports betting still on track – Supreme Court invites NJ solicitor general to weigh in.

Article 2) Trump Taj Mahal casino is to be sold to Hard Rock – possible opening in the summer of 2018. “In early March, Carl Icahn reached a deal to sell Taj Mahal to hard Rock International and two New Jersey investors”.

Article 3) Fantasy sports could net NJ \$2M annually. “Released figures from New York gaming regulators suggest that NJ, if it follows suit and legalizes daily fantasy sports, could take in up to \$2million in taxes in the first year of operation.”

Highlights in AC:

Borgata tax issue has been resolved.

Revenue #'s increased for 1st time in 10 years.

Internet revenue is higher than brick and mortar casinos.

Taj Mahal sold to Hard Rock – Should be up and running summer of 2018.

Hard Rock will also bring huge database.

Harrah's is in process of upgrade (450 rooms).

Harrah's conference center has been very successful.

Resorts may be renovating conference center. Not been determined.

Boardwalk restoration should be completed summer of 2017.

Stockton Univ campus groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 20, 2017.

Should be opened by the Fall of 2018.

Steel Pier (Eye in Sky) should be opened this summer 2017.

Fiscal Update – Desmond Webb provided 5 handouts. 1) CRF Revenue By Fiscal Year beginning 1/11 to present 2) End of Fiscal Year Total CRF sorted by year showing Internet Gaming Tax, Expired Casino Vouchers, Casino Fines, Casino Parking Tax, Casino Room Fee, Gross Revenue Tax and Progressive slot tax, (Jim asked Desmond to send him what is included in each of these categories for preparation of the yearly report). 3) DGE Site, Gross Casino Revenues – line graph (minus the internet revenue) month by month beginning 1/12 – 11/16. 4) Gross Casino Revenues: Year over Year Change – bar graph showing increases and decreases from 1/12 – 11/16. Increase in 1/17. 5) Gross Casino Revenues by Year line graph. 6) Monthly Internet Revenues line graph demonstrating an increase in revenues from 12/13 - - 11/16 (note- internet gambling is not seasonal like the casinos).

Internet gaming had a 30% increase since start up.

Motion to close the meeting – motion seconded. 11:45. Next meeting will be May 12, 2017 at the State House Annex, in Trenton, NJ Room 1.