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# Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Commission

# MARYLAND ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION AUGUST MINUTES

DATE:

August 19, 2021

TIME:

3:08 P.M.

PLACE:

Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Commission Headquarters

(Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams, recorded for replay)

PRESENT:

Chair Alan Silverstein

Vice Chair Barbara Wahl

Commissioner Eric Morrissette

OTHERS:

Executive Director Jeffrey Kelly, Alcohol and Tobacco Commission,

Dawn Berkowitz, Maryland Department of Health, Andrew Waters, ATC,

Karyle Fogan, Comptroller of Maryland.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Alan Silverstein called the meeting of the Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Commission to order at 3:08 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chair Alan Silverstein called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for August 19, 2021. Vice Chair Barbara Wahl moved to approve and Commissioner Eric Morrissette 2<sup>nd.</sup> the motion. All in favor voted aye unanimously approving the August meeting minutes.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Director Kelly gave an accounting of the enforcement activity since the last month's meeting breaking it down into alcohol and tobacco violations, confiscations, and charges. He commented that many of the violations tend to be related to Other Tobacco Products.

Director Kelly discussed the progress on hiring a Management Associate for the ATC. Once interviews are complete, he will request a closed executive session with the commissioners to select the best candidate.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Dawn Berkowitz gave a power point presentation on alcohol and tobacco use in Maryland. This presentation included the risk behaviors of Youth and Adult use of alcohol and tobacco. She talked about youth access to tobacco products and retailer resources and how the health department collects their data through surveys. She said that they conduct trainings at the middle school and high school levels. She talked about the online training that they offer to retailers as well. The survey database that they use is from contractors that gets phone numbers from the CDC and they are then able to pull cell phone numbers and landline numbers that are put into a computer system and the survey calls that they make are randomized. She also gave a percentage breakdown that compares the different levels of alcohol and tobacco use by White, Black, and Hispanic/Latino students. She also mentioned the changes of vape products and new legislation that could be made in 2022 for vape products. Dawn Berkowitz announced that she will be taking a new position as Deputy Director with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission.

# **FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that the meetings should remain virtual until further notice.

# <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Commissioner Eric Morrisette moved to adjourn the meeting and Chair Silverstein 2<sup>nd.</sup> the motion and all in favor voyed aye and the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

\*Next regular meeting date is September 16, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing minutes represent the minutes of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission meeting on August 19, 2021.

Alan I. Silverstein, Chair

Date