

Virginia Racing Commission

MINUTES

OF THE

COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, October 15th, 2014

**General Assembly Building
House Room D
910 Capitol Street
Richmond, Virginia, 23219**

In Attendance

Commission Members:

J. Sargeant Reynolds, Jr., Chairman
D.G. Van Clief, Jr., Vice Chairman
Carol G. Dawson
Stran Trout
I. Clinton Miller

Commission Staff:

Bernard J. Hettel, Executive Secretary
Courtney C. Reid, Program Support Technician

Office of Agriculture and Forestry

Todd Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
Carrie Chenery, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

Attorney General's Office:

Joshua Laws, Esq.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reynolds at 10:05 AM.

All Commissioners were in attendance and joined by Secretariat of Agriculture and Forestry, Todd Haymore and members of his staff.

The minutes from the September 17th meeting of the Commission were unanimously approved.

Jeffrey Jacobs, owner of Colonial Downs, delivered a statement to the Commission which included withdrawing his application for 2015 Standardbred and Thoroughbred racing days and also surrendering his unlimited racing license effective November 1st 2014.

Chairman Reynolds, after receiving the surrender of the Colonial Downs license, made a motion to go into closed session to receive legal advice. The motion carried and the Commission went into closed session at 10:20 AM. At 10:57 AM, the Commission returned and a motion was carried to return from the closed session.

Commissioner Van Clief made a motion to accept the surrender of Colonial Downs' license effective November 1st at 12:01 AM. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to renew the limited license of the Virginia Gold Cup and approve the request they made for 2015 race days. The motion was unanimously approved.

Each Commissioner delivered a statement on the outcome of today's meeting, sharing disappointment for the result but hoping for a positive future in Virginia Horse Racing.

Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, Todd Haymore, also conveyed his disappointment for the outcome of events which occurred. He implored his optimism for the future and commitment to working with the Governor, Attorney General, Commission and public, in order to have a positive future for horse racing in Virginia

Dr. Al Griffin from the Virginia Gold Cup made a presentation to the Commission in reference to the Virginia Thoroughbred Alliance. This newly formulated group consists of the Virginia Gold Cup, the Virginia HBPA and the VTA. The group hopes to come together with an improved model of Virginia Racing.

There were several members of the public made comments to the Commission about the outcome of Colonial Downs surrendering the license.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 12:06 PM.