

South Carolina Real Estate Commission
Education Taskforce Teleconference Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 7, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Real Estate Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Commission website, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. The telephone number and access code were provided on the posted agenda for members of the public wishing to join.

Taskforce Members Present:

David Burnett – Commissioner, Taskforce Chair
Gary A. Pickren, Esq. – Commissioner
Carol Pyfrom
Charles Wyatt
Dianna Brouthers
Jim Moody
Keon Aldrich
Robert Woodul
Austin Smallwood, Esq., SCR

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:

Kyle Tennis, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel
Meredith Buttler, Administrator

PRESENT:

Sarah Costilow, Court Reporter

CALLED TO ORDER: Mr. Burnett, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda.
Pickren/Aldrich/Approved.

INTRODUCTION OF TASKFORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Taskforce members and staff introduced themselves. Ms. Buttler noted for the record that Commissioner Bethune and Ms. Jenny Nicely were not able to join due to scheduling conflicts.

IDENTIFICATION AND DISCUSSION OF EDUCATION ISSUES

Mr. Burnett presented the background for the Taskforce's creation and explained that the Commission has specifically requested the Taskforce examine the factors leading to low examination passing rates and develop a proposal for corrective action(s). Taskforce members expressed particular concern regarding the low broker exam passing rates and identified the possible need to development enhanced training or training framework for salespersons working to become brokers. Members also requested being able to assess the individual schools' exam report cards. Ms. Buttler stated that the data had been pulled and analyzed prior to the Taskforce

meeting and Commission staff found significant discrepancies in the reported data. The Commission office is working with PSI to address these issues and will present updated reports as soon as correct data can be confirmed. Mr. Burnett brought to the Taskforce's consideration the creation of re-examination stipulations via regulation such as taking additional education or imposing a mandatory waiting period following a specified number of unsuccessful re-examination attempts. Additional discussion included the development of a standard course to assist schools in better preparing the students for the topics covered in the PSI exams. Ms. Brouthers and Mr. Wyatt confirmed many students reported being able to pass the national exam but not the state exam and therefore a standard course would be of benefit in properly preparing students for the state exam. Mr. Pickren inquired as to the ability for the Commission to impose conditions, enact discipline, or otherwise take some type of action against education providers based upon low examination passing rates. Mr. Tennis will review existing statutes and regulations to see if the Commission has the authority to take such action.

Concluding the meeting, Mr. Burnett briefly reviewed other initiatives the Commission has requested the Taskforce look into. Additional meetings to be scheduled by the Commission office staff, it was requested that in-person meeting with longer time allowance be scheduled in 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.