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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES APRIL 22, 2016

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Dr. Edward Reading at 9:35 a.m. in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Edward Reading, Ph.D., LCADC, Committee Chair
Sylvia Lippe, LCADC, Committee Vice Chair
Norwood Allen, CADC, Committee Member

Absent:

Jamie Lugo, CADC, Committee Member

Also Present:

Nancy Miller - Deputy Attorney General
Michael DeFrancisci - Special Assistant to Steve Lee, Acting Director, Division of Consumer Affairs
Milagros Collazo - Executive Director
Celeste Paige - Administrative Staff
ToniAnn Petrella-Diaz - Confidential Assistant

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Record, and the Courier Post and also posted on the Committee's web page.

Announcement of Quorum

Committee Chair Dr. Reading announced the presence of a quorum at 9:35 a.m.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

A. March 18, 2016 Public Minutes

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Jamie Lugo, the Committee voted to approve the March 18, 2016 minutes as amended. Voting in favor: all.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Bowe - Executive Director - APCBNJ

Ray Cortese - Board Chair - APCBNJ

Elizabeth Conte - LPC, LCADC, Clinical Workforce Developmental Specialist - DMHAS

Christine Groelly - Montclair State University - Student

V. LEGISLATIVE REGULATORY

A. Assembly Bill 3224

The Committee reviewed Assembly Bill 3224, which seeks to establish the “Mental Health Treatment Reform and Violence Prevention Act.”

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support the bill as presented. Voting in favor: all.

B. New Jersey Prevention Network

The Committee reviewed the New Jersey Prevention Network’s April 5, 2016 letter regarding N.J.A.C. 13:34C-2.3.

Upon motion made by Norwood Allen, and seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to refer the letter from the NJPN to the Regulations Committee. Voting in favor: all.

C. Assembly Bill 3638

The Committee reviewed Assembly Bill 3638, which seeks to establish animal cruelty offense of animal hoarding; require mental health counseling for all animal cruelty offenders.

Upon motion made by Sylvia Lippe, and seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support the bill adding language stating “a licensed therapist or psychologist who is working within their scope of practice with a credential to treat.” Voting in favor: all.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

No items to report.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

No items to report.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

At the request of the Committee, Michael DeFrancisci, special assistant to Steve Lee, Acting Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs, attended the meeting. The Committee invited Richard Bowe, Executive Director for APCBNJ, Ray Cortese, Board Chair of APCBNJ, and Elizabeth Conte, Workforce Development section of DMHAS, to discuss national trends in providing services to treat substance abuse, as well as recent innovations in this State related to making support services available to persons seeking treatment, including in emergency departments of hospitals.

Among the topics discussed, was the development of a third tier certification (in addition to CADC and LCADC) for a “peer recovery specialist.” An individual with that

credential could work in a licensed agency, under supervision, providing support services, not to include counseling. As contemplated by the APCBNJ, training would consist of 46 hours, 16 of which would focus on ethical responsibilities.

In the last two years, 21 states across the country have created this third tier credential.

Ms. Conte discussed programs detailed in a Department of Humans Services press release related to support for persons who are in recovery.

Committee members discussed the need for revisions to the practice act to implement a third credential. Consistent with national trends, the Committee envisions a Peer Recovery Certification (HS level and above), CADC (Associates or Bachelor Degree and above) and LCADC (Masters level and above). If the Legislature were open to amending the practice act, the Committee noted that it would recommend other changes to reflect current medical knowledge regarding treatment of addiction.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

No items to report.

X. FILED ORDERS

No items to report.

XI. Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey MATTERS (APCBNJ)

Mr. Bowe advised the Committee that the APCBNJ has moved into its new office facility and the delays in scheduling examinations have been addressed.

He additionally asked for clarification based on questions he routinely receives.

The Committee noted that at this time there has been no change in academic requirements for obtaining a CADC (would require change to practice act). Presently, a CCS credential is required for certain supervisors; the Committee will be proposing a regulation to require it for all – note that proposed regulations will have a public comment period.

There currently is not a different or advanced examination for LCADC; that may occur in future. Although someone may take the training to be awarded a CCS certificate, only those who possess a Master's degree and a license are able to provide supervision to CADCs and interns.

Finally, the Committee reiterated that the APCBNJ website should be clear that it is the Committee and not APCBNJ that licenses and certifies individuals under the practice act.

XII. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Service Matters (DMHAS)

Elizabeth Conte - LPC, LCADC, Clinical Workforce Developmental Specialist - DMHAS - participated in the discussion with APCBNJ.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for **May 20, 2016 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.**

Meeting Dates for 2016

May 20, 2016
June 24, 2016
July 22, 2016
August 26, 2016
September 23, 2016
October 28, 2016
November 18, 2016
December 16, 2016

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Norwood Allen, and seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to enter Executive Session at 11:24 a.m. to review applications, plans of supervision, consumer complaints, and other pending disciplinary and investigatory matters. Voting in favor: all.

XV. REVIEW OF CREDENTIALS

The Committee reviewed the following applications for licensure and certification for approval.

A. LCADC

MARCH 2016

Upgrade LCADC Approved

1. Karen F. Kerr

B. LCADC- Upgrade

MARCH 2016

1. Mustafa S. Abdus-Salaam
2. Temitope Coates
3. Lisa T. Levine
4. Elizabeth Mackenzie
5. Mary J. Merritt
6. Fady P. Michail
7. Elizabeth Stanley
8. Graceann Talarico
9. Laura Tyson

C. CADC

MARCH 2016

1. Tony Jermin
2. Erica Marte
3. Sharonda M. Roberts

D. Written and Oral Examinations

MARCH 2016

1. Bilal Abbas
2. Nicholas P. DeSimone

3. Barbara Faracchio
4. Barbara Farrell
5. Liana Rhodes
6. Valerie A. Mitchell
7. Deshonda R. Renfro
8. Arthur J. Tomlin
9. Marie N. Valerius
10. Celeste M. Whitehead

E. Oral Examination Only

None to review for March.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee voted to adjourn the March 18, 2016 public session at 3:22 p.m. Voting in favor: all.