

**MASSAGE, BODYWORK AND SOMATIC THERAPY
MINUTES**

**REGULAR OPEN COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2004**

A meeting of the Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapists was held on February 4, 2004 in the Essex Conference Room on the 7th Floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey. Alan G. Vonderahe Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Committee Members: Carol Alexander, Donda Kraus-Sternberg, Deborah Overholt, Alan G. Vonderahe and Henry Roth.

ALSO PRESENT

Anthony Miragliotta, Deputy Director, Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst, Division of Consumer Affairs, George J. Hebert, Acting Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Nursing and Darlene Lapola, Deputy Attorney General.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED PRESENT

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 mailing on January 2, 2004. A schedule of all 2004 Regular Open Committee Meetings of the Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Examining Committee to be held during 2004 was provided to the Office of the Secretary of State, Star Ledger, Trenton-Times, The New York Times, Camden Courier Post, and The Philadelphia Inquirer. The schedule has also been posted on the bulletin board at the New Jersey State Board of Nursing Office.

A reading and approval of the Open Committee Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2004.

THE COMMITTEE, UPON A MOTION MADE BY CAROL J. ALEXANDER AND DULY SECONDED BY DEBORAH R. OVERHOLT VOTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR OPEN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2004. THE MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The committee continued to review comments from the public regarding the Massage, Bodywork and Somatic Therapy Proposed Regulations. The committee is preparing responses to those comments.

The committee reviewed several comments regarding a requirement to take a course in Basic Life Support (BLS). The proposed regulations state that the course should be approved by the American Heart Association. The committee will research whether other entities should be recognized in the regulations as organizations that can approve BLS courses.

The committee decided to not adopt prohibitions against performing internal organ movement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Anthony Miragliotta discussed with the committee Assembly Bill 1913:

The bill establishes the Health Care Professional Regulation Study Commission to study and evaluate, and develop recommendations relating to, the most effective means to strengthen the oversight of health care professionals practicing in this state.

OPEN FORUM:

Alan Vonderahe, Chairman asked the public to share with the Committee any concerns, issues or questions. The committee advise anyone who have comments to submit in writing to the Board of Nursing.

Individuals who spoke regarding the Proposed Regulations were:

* Susan Ring, Body Mechanics Massage Therapy - suggest the committee allow massage therapists to perform MLD.

*Ken Maily, Physical Therapist APTANJ - suggests that the committee clarify the standards of practice for massage therapists.

* Kenny Shinn, Heart and Soul Holistic Center - will submit to the committee information regarding MLD. Mr. Shinn suggests that the committee allow massage therapists to perform MLD with certain limitations.

* Jennifer Anna, Massage Therapist - expresses concerns regarding MLD and that it should be added in the regulations.

ADJOURNMENT:

On February 4, 2004 the Regular Open Examining Committee Meeting was adjourned at 3:30p.m. The next Regular Open Examining Committee Meeting will be held on March 3, 2004.

THE COMMITTEE, UPON A MOTION MADE BY HENRY ROTH AND DULY SECONDED BY DONDA KRAUS-STERNBERG VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MASSAGE, BODYWORK AND SOMATIC THERAPY EXAMINING COMMITTEE MEETING AT 3:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan G. Vonderahe
Chairman

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