

**NEW JERSEY BOARD OF MASSAGE AND BODYWORK THERAPY  
OPEN MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 29, 2012**

A meeting of the Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy was held on February 29, 2012 in the Somerset Conference Room on the 6th Floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark J. Carangelo  
Christine Gill Rose  
Deborah Overholt

Cynthia Sinicropi-Balena  
Deborah Zastocki

**ALSO, PRESENT:**

Joanne Leone, Deputy Executive Director  
Margaret Howard, Volunteer Staff  
Susan Carboni, DAG

Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst  
Diane Scott, Administrative Staff  
Lisa Affinito, Executive Director, Physical Therapy

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Ronald P. Mondello  
Alan G. Vonderahe

**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 December 1, 2010. A schedule of all 2011 Regular Open Meetings of the Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy to be held during 2011 was provided to the Office of the Secretary of State, Star Ledger, Trenton-Times, The New York Times, Camden Courier Post, The Press of Atlantic City 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 Session Agenda of February 29, 2012 Board Meeting:

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Cynthia Sinicropi-Philibosian and duly seconded by Mark Carangelo, voted to approve the February 29, 2012 Board Meeting Open Session Agenda. The motion carried.**

A reading and approval of the Open Session Minutes of the February 23, 2011 Board Meeting with amendments:

- Page two – Discussion: #3, the motion should read – **After discussion, the Board upon a motion made by Alan Vonderahe and duly seconded by Mark Carangelo, voted not to meet until the regulations are published and public comments are reviewed.**

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Cynthia Sinicropi-Philibosian and duly seconded by Mark Carangelo, voted to approve the September 29, 2010 Board meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCES:**

1. December 12, 2011 – letter from Libby Eason, President, IASI requesting that the Board accept the Certification Exam for Structural Integration as an avenue to licensure.

This correspondence will be reviewed during the comments discussion.

2. December 20, 2011 – letter from Gayle P. Ohnmacht, MT requesting a change in the regulations regarding the requirement of transcripts.

The Board reviewed and discussed the contents of the letter and directed staff to send a letter.

3. January 3, 2012 – letter from Cheryl Dzubak, NCTMB expressing concerns regarding the work hour requirement for licensure by Grandfathering.

The Board cannot assist in this matter until licensure takes effect.

4. January 14, 2012 – email from Sally Hacking regarding NJ AB 456; Regulates Massage Therapy Advertising.

The Board reviewed and discussed the email but determined that no action was needed at this time.

5. January 17, 2012 – letter from Donna Wilson, Compliance Coordinator, ProTraining, LLC, seeking to be recognized as an approved provider for CPR and First Aid Certification.

The Board reviewed and discussed the CPR classes being offered by ProTraining, LLC. It appears that the ProTraining, LLC is an online company and applicants are required to participate in a ground class for initial certification.

6. February 8, 2012 – email from Larry Heisler, MA, CMT, Director, North Jersey Massage Training Center, regarding foreign applicants seeking licensure for massage therapy.

The Board discussed and reviewed the email from Mr. Heisler, but the Board has not jurisdiction over massage therapy schools.

**REGULATIONS COMMENTS:**

The Massage and Bodywork Therapy (The Board) regulations were posted in the New Jersey Registrar for public comment on November 7, 2011 with a deadline date of January 6, 2012. The Board received 41 comments regarding the regulations.

The Board reviewed and discussed the comments with the following revisions:

**Comment #15** – Several commenters point out that N.J.A.C. 13:37A-2.3(f) does not address individuals who obtained their licenses pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37A-2.2.

**Response:** The regulations will be amended to say, “If a licensee is seeking reinstatement after more than five years, the licensee will be required to retake the examination or a refresher course”.

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Cynthia Sinicropi-Philibosian and duly seconded by Deborah Overholt, voted to amend the regulations as stated. The motion carried.**

**Comment #17** – Several commenters recommend that N.J.A.C. 13:37A-2.3(f)1 be amended so that an individual who completed an education in order to obtain licensure will be able to reinstate a license only by completing a licensing examination. The commenter contends that, given a choice, an individual would prefer to reinstate a license by completing an examination as it is significantly cheaper than completing the education required by N.J.A.C. 13:37A-2.3(f)1.

**Response:** The regulations will be amended to say, “If a licensee allows his or her license to lapse for more than five years, they are required to take a refresher course approved by the New Jersey Dept of Education and the Dept of Labor and Workforce Development”.

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Mark Carangelo and duly seconded by Christine Gill Rose, voted to amend the regulations as stated. The motion carried.**

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Cynthia Sinicropi-Philibosian and duly seconded by Mark Carangelo, voted to adopt the regulations as proposed. The motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Christine Gill Rose, Board Member – expressed concerns regarding the educational requirement that may negatively affect some massage therapists seeking licensure. There are massage therapists that have been practicing for over 15 years that attended schools that are now closed. It will be difficult to verify the educational information of these individuals without any provisions in the regulations.

**OPEN FORUM:**

Rena Margulis – requested that yoga and Tychy be accepted as teaching methods and for the practice of massage therapy. Ms. Margulis also spoke about developing teaching techniques to practice massage on children. There should be list available for each class taken for massage therapy programs.

Jean Robinson, Director, ABMP – massage therapists should be allowed to practice what they are trained in. Ms. Robinson expressed interest in the waiver option for applicants to meet the requirements. Also, expressed concerns whether the waiver option be canceled when there is a new government in office.

Lori Keith, President, AMTA, NJ Chapter – Expressed concerns regarding school transcripts.

Kathy D. Borsuk, VP 3, AMTA, NJ Chapter – Thanked the Board for the time and effort that went into completing the regulations.

Sally Hasking, GR, AMTA, NJ Chapter – Thanked the Board for hard work that went into the completing the regulations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy will not meet until April 25, 2012.

**After discussion, the Board, upon a motion made by Christine Gill Rose and duly seconded by Mark Carangelo, voted to adjourn the Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy Meeting at 1:55 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Deborah Overholt  
Board Chair