

**State Board of Marriage And Family Therapy Examiners
Open Session Minutes**

February 14, 2002

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:15 A.M. by President Florence A. Schatten who read the notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Board President Florence A. Schatten
Board Vice President J. David Niemeyer
Board Member Roland A. Alum
Board Member Barbara Andrews
Board Member Priscilla Harcar
Board Member Steven Kovel
Board Member Edward Reading
Board Member Edward W. Stroh
Board Member Ronald K. Walthall

Absent:

Board Member Samira Haddad (excused)
Board Member James Verser (excused)

Staff Present:

Executive Director Dennis E. Gonzalez
Deputy Attorney General Marilyn Bair
Celeste Sweeper, Supervising Clerk
Jane Cofone, Administrative Staff

C. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER PRISCILLA HARCAR

New Board Member Priscilla "Chris" Harcar introduced herself to the Board. She gave a brief description of her background.

D. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 13, 2001 PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by E. Reading, seconded by S. Kovel, minutes of December 13, 2001, were approved without corrections

E. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

SENATE BILL NO. 786

On a motion by R. Alum, seconded by R. Walthall, the Board voted to support this bill which provides for SHBP coverage for psychotherapy services by Marriage and Family Therapists. However, the Board wants their

comments to reflect that they would like for the Legislature to consider license professional counselor (LPC) and license clinical alcohol & drug counselors (LCADC).

F.. OLD BUSINESS

1. MFT Initial License Application - Chairman F. Schatten appointed a Committee that will meet with the Executive Director on March 4th to review the regular application and make changes if necessary. Serving on the committee are Chairman, F. Schatten, J. David Niemeyer and Marilyn Bair.
2. Retreat - The Executive Director informed the Board that the Deputy Director, Anthony Miragliotta has approved the Board's request to hold a retreat with the condition that the retreat is in conjunction with our regular Board meeting. Chairman F. Schatten will appoint a committee to work with the Executive Director on planning the retreat which is tentatively scheduled for May, 2002.
3. On a motion by E. Reading, seconded by R. Walthall, the Board voted to authorize Board member James Verser to meet with Seton Hall University LMFT students as he has done previously.
4. LMFT Renewal Applications- The Board reviewed the draft of the renewal application and requested that a third question be added to the application asking the licensee if they answer yes to questions 1 and 2 regarding alcohol and/or substance abuse to indicate whether or not they are currently, or have had treatment with therapy.

G. NEW BUSINESS CREDENTIALS REVIEW

1. Bonnie Kuehns- On a motion by R. Walthall, seconded by D. Niemeyer, the Board voted to deny Ms. Kuhn's authorization to take the MFT exam because she does not meet the educational requirements.
2. Michelle Saffier- On a motion by E. Stroh, seconded by S. Kovel, Ms. Saffier was once again denied authorization to take the exam. (She was also denied in May, 2001) because she does not meet the educational requirements.
3. Debra Scimeca - On a motion by E. Stroh, seconded by R. Walthall, Board voted to grant Ms. Scimeca permission to take the exam.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Professional Counselors Committee - E. Stroh reported to the Board that the PC Committee met the week before.
2. Alcohol and Drug Counselors Committee - E. Reading reported to the Board that the Alcohol & Drug Committee met two weeks prior.
3. Regulations Committee - Chairman, F. Schatten appointed board members J. Verser and E. Stroh as members of this committee and named Mr. Verser Chairman of the Committee.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

J. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be March 14, 2002 at 9:00 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by S. Kovel, seconded by R. Walthall, the Board went into Executive Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis E. Gonzalez
Executive Director
