

# State Board of Marriage And Family Therapy Examiners

## Open Session Minutes

March 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 Samira Haddad  
Board Member Steven Kovel  
Board Member Edward Reading  
Board Member Edward W. Stroh  
Board Member James Verser  
Board Member Ronald K. Walthall

#### Absent:

Board Member Priscilla Harcar

#### Staff Present:

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

### C. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 14, 2002 PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by R. Alum, seconded by R. Walthall, minutes of February 14, 2002, were approved with corrections.

### D. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

**E. Senate Bill 970** - On a motion by J. Verser, seconded by R. Walthall, the Board voted not to support this bill because they felt it is unnecessary legislation that has the effect of diluting the powers of a board and will add another layer of bureaucracy which makes the application process burdensome.

**2. Senate Bill 1089** - On a motion by J. Verser, seconded by S. Kovel, the Board voted not to support this bill because they felt it was unnecessary and restricts the Board's authority and judgment.

**Professional Counselor/Rehabilitation Counselor Sexual Misconduct Regulations** - On a motion

by E. Stroh, seconded by J. Verser, the Board approved the sexual misconduct regulations as adopted by the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee with minor technical changes.

**MFT Fee Decrease** - On a motion by J. Verser, seconded by E. Reading, the Board voted to adopt the MFT fee decrease regulations with minor modifications.

**Uniform Enforcement Act.** - Board members were given a copy of the newest revision to the Uniform Enforcement Act when conducting investigative inquiries.

## **F. OLD BUSINESS**

**G. Initial License Application Review** - The Board reviewed the revisions to the initial application which were drafted by Chairwoman Schatten, Vice Chair, J. Niemeyer and DAG M. Bair. After making minor changes, the Board voted to accept this draft and forward it to the Print Production Division.

**H. Renewal MFT Application** - Board members were informed that the Board's request to have a third question added to the renewal application regarding alcohol and substance abuse treatment was rejected by the Division Deputy Director.

**I. Retreat** - The Board was informed that due to the cost, the Division Deputy Director had denied permission to hold the retreat at the Newark Museum. The Board held a discussion on holding the retreat at Passaic County Community College (suggested by Roland Alum, however, the Board felt it would be more convenient to hold the retreat in Newark. Accordingly, the Board voted to hold the retreat at 124 Halsey Street on May 9, 2002. Retreat Committee will convene and report to the Board at the next meeting.

## **J. NEW BUSINESS**

Board member, J. Verser requested that the Executive Director contact Kean University and Seton Hall University regarding the letters that were mailed to them two months ago inquiring about their MFT Program.

## **K. CREDENTIAL REVIEW**

**L. Rivka Bertisch** - On a motion by E. Stroh, seconded by Samira Haddad, the Board denied Ms. Bertisch permission to take the exam because she does not meet the educational requirements.

**M. Ana I. DuBois** - On a motion by S. Kovel, seconded by R. Walthall, the Board denied Ms. DuBois permission to take the exam due to insufficient experienced hours.

**N. B'Nay Y. James** - On a motion by R. Walthall, seconded by E. Stroh, the applicant was denied permission to take the exam due to inadequate number of MFT supervised hours.

**O. Kimberly M. Sumner** - On a motion by E. Stroh, seconded by R. Walthall, Ms. Sumner was approved to take the MFT exam.

## **P. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

## **I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**Q. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be April 11, 2002, at 9:00 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

**R. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by S. Kovel, seconded by J. Niemeyer, the Board voted to go into Executive Session.

**S. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis E. Gonzalez  
Executive Director

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