



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

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



PAULA T. DOW
Attorney General

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Acting Director

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **MARCH 11, 2010**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by Board Chair, James Verser, who read the notice of compliance with the open Public Meetings Act.

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45007
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6415

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ben K. Beitin
Gina Kassel
J. Barry Mascari
Judith Owens
Dana L. Redd (Arrived at 11:55 a.m.)
James Verser

Excused:

Edward Reading
David J. Socolow

Staff Present:

Deputy Attorney General, Jodi C. Krugman
Administrative Staff, Elaine L. DeMars
Administrative Staff, Celeste Paige
Administrative Staff, Aishah Wah

Announcement of quorum

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 to the Office of the Secretary of State, the Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and The Courier Post.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by J. Barry Mascari, seconded by Judith Owens, the minutes of the December 10, 2009 Public Agenda were recommended for approval as corrected.

The meeting scheduled for February 11, 2010 was canceled due to snow.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Attending the meeting:

Laura Palmer, Ph.D. - Seton Hall University

Peggy Farrelly, Ph.D., Seton Hall University

James Wulach, Ph.D., J.D., Coalition Counseling and
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Bob Polakowski, Vice President, Association of Independent Colleges

Jennifer Short, Assistant to President, Association of Independent Colleges

Matthew Borawick, Associate Vice President, Seton Hall University

Harriet Gaddy, Ph.D., Centenary College

Megan Lytte, Seton Hall University

The above listed individuals appeared to advise the Board of the effects of the October 5, 2009 adoption of N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2(b) and N.J.A.C. 13:34-13. Deputy Director, Larry DeMarzo acknowledged the concerns and advised the group that a meeting will be scheduled to provide an opportunity for further discussion.

John Kohler - Riker Danzig appeared to ascertain an update on the issue of including marriage and family therapy in related Civil Service job descriptions and titles.

Jose Perez, LMFT, AMFT-NJ, Lifeline Campaign. The program is working to assist graduate students through the licensure process. Mr. Perez informed the Board that the AAMFT website includes information regarding the Lifeline Campaign.

Rhoda Ondov -Graduate of the Kean University Marriage and Family Therapy program reported her difficulty in obtaining supervision experience and employment.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Elaine DeMars reported the following Board member appointment changes for the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners. The Governor's Appointments office has advised that Public Member, Amy Meckeler will no longer serve. Board Member Dawn Lacy notified the Board of her resignation to be effective February 11, 2010. Dana L. Redd and David J. Socolow have been appointed to serve as public members.

Ms. DeMars also informed the Board that notification for the upcoming biennial license renewal period (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012) for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists will be mailed in mid-April. Paper renewal forms will only be mailed to licensees requesting the forms as directed on the notification. All licensees are encouraged to complete the on-line renewal process.

VI. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

A. Senate Bill 848

Senate Bill 848 would require health service corporations to encrypt certain information. Upon review, for Board determined to make no comment.

B. Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Report

Darlene Kane attended the meeting to address any questions on the (combined) budget report for the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee and the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee. Ms. Kane reported that no change in the current fee schedule is anticipated.

VII. NJAMFT/AMFTRB MATTERS

AMFTRB Updates

The Board reviewed the January 6, 2010 email from Lois Paff Bergen. Ms. Bergen informed the Board of the new appointments made at the Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards. Ms. Paff Bergen's email has been accepted as informational.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Regulations Committee

Gina Kassel reported that the committee continues to work on the revisions of the regulations.

B. Professional Counselor Examiners Committee

Due to the continued lack of quorum, the minutes for the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee's December 3, 2009 and February 4, 2010 Public Agenda meeting were recommended for Board approval.

On a motion by J. Barry Mascari, seconded by Judith Owens, the Public Minutes of the December 3, 2009 Professional Counselor Examiners Committee meeting were approved

as

presented.

On a motion by J. Barry Mascari, seconded by Gina Kassel, the Public Minutes of the February 4, 2010 Public Agenda meeting were approved as presented.

Dr. Mascari reported that due to the lack of a full Committee, the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee continues to work without a quorum. Application review is considerably backlogged.

C. Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee

In the absence of Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee liaison, Edward Reading, Elaine DeMars reported that the Committee has received a considerable number of the proposed plans of supervision for CADC and LCADC interns and for individuals working with the CADC credential.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

The New Jersey Foundation for Aging press release regarding a new law to protect vulnerable seniors was accepted as informational.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Shivani Nath

The Provisional Order of Denial of Licensure for Shivani Nath is deemed to have been served. To date, Ms. Nath has not responded. Due to the recusal of Board member Ben Beitin and Gina Kassel and the resulting lack of quorum, a vote for the approval of a Final Order of Denial is tabled for the April 8, 2010 meeting.

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be April 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Gina Kassel, seconded by Judith Owens, the Board moved to Executive Session at 10:44 a.m. to discuss pending complaints and confidential matters.

XIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Judith Owens, seconded by Dana Redd, the Board meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.