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Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
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BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

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PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

DECEMBER 13, 2012

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I. CALL TO ORDER

This scheduled meeting of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners was called to Order by Chair Ben Beitin at 9:45am, in the Monmouth Room 124 Halsey Street, 7th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Board Chair, Ben Beitin, Ph.D, LMFT
Board Vice-Chair, Jose Perez, LMFT
Board Member, Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, LPC (*Professional Counselor Committee Liason*)
Board Member, Edward Reading, Ph.D, LCADC (*Alcohol & Drug Committee Liason*)

Excused:

Board Member, Eileen Thornton

Also Present:

Deputy Attorney General, Jodi Krugman
Executive Director, Milagros Collazo
Government Rep., Michela Ross
Administrative Staff, Celeste Paige

Announcement of Quorum

Committee Chair, Ben Beitin announced the presence of a quorum at 9:46am.

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 mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and the Courier Post. Adequate notice of this meeting was also posted on the Board's web page.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, the minutes of the October 25, 2012 public meeting were approved as amended.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Ms. Lorenza Paskas came before the Board explaining she has a Masters of Arts and Behavioral Sciences from Kean University and inquiring how she applies for MTF licensure.
- B. Ms. Rhoda Ondov came before the Board requesting follow up to her question of what title should be listed on the business card of a 3-year temporary permit holder.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A. Legislative

Change to Sub-chapter 11 - 13:34-11.2 (c), 11.5 (c) and 12.1 (e)

Requirement for applicants to have a bachelor's degree and acceptance of dual degree programs (bachelors/masters). The Board has received 78 comments from the public in regards to the proposed change.

B. Internet Counseling and Supervision

The staff has receive inquiries regarding the use of the internet to provide counseling and supervision via Skype. The Professional Counselor Committee has formed a sub-committee to explore existing policies in other jurisdictions, procedures, etc.

C. Licensing Activity Report:

Active - 567

Inactive - 167

Pending - 140

Reinstatements Pending - 11

Suspended - 3

Voluntary Surrender - 5

Withdrawn - 2

3 year permits - 72

1 year permits - 1

VI. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

A. Chuck Manning, Regulatory Analyst

Professional Counselor Examiners Regulation

N.J.A.C 13:34-11.2(c), N.J.A.C 13:34-11.5 (c) & (e) and N.J.A.C 13:34-17.1

Bachelor's degree, counseling title, endorsement

In a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by Ketrin Saud-Maxwell the Board supports not having word "counseling" required in degree titles and instead focus on course work that prepares applicants for licensure. The Board of Marriage and Family recognizes the Professional Counselors Committee is focusing on substance over title. Voting in favor: all.

B. Assembly No. 3427 *Provides for temporary professional or occupational licensure for qualified nonresident military spouses.*

The Board supports the general idea of the bill, but has concern over its implementation.

VI. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY cont'd

- C. Assembly No. 3465 *Limits actions against court-appointed psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, or other licensed mental health professionals in certain Family Court matters.***

The Board had concerns regarding this bill which allows the courts to limit the powers of the licensing boards. Since the boards have the authority over the professions then they need to have authority to regulate the conduct of its licensees.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Internet Counseling

The Board reviewed an email received regarding internet counseling. The Board has concerns regarding record keeping, confidentiality, and security. The Professional Counselor Examiners Committee has formed a sub-committee to explore the topic of internet counseling and will report back to the Marriage and Family Therapy Board.

B. Travis Meeuwsen

The Board reviewed Mr. Meeuwsen's November 8, 2012 email regarding an out-of-state temporary license. The Board determined to direct Mr. Meeuwsen to statute **N.J.S.A 45:8B-6(c)** which addresses the issue of how to obtain a temporary license when coming from another state.

C. Melissa von der Heide

The Board reviewed Ms. von der Heide's November 14, 2012 email regarding her expired 3-year temporary permit. The Board determined to direct Ms. Von der Heide to statute **N.J.S.A 45:8B-6(e)** which address the issue of 3-year temporary permits. The Board determined to write Ms. Von der Heide a letter inquiring whether she has been obtaining her hours on a full or part time basis. The Board would like to determine how many hours Ms. von der Heide has worked per week in regards to regulation **N.J.A.C 13:34-4.3** the definition of "One calendar year."

D. Barbara B. Umpleby, LMFT

The Board reviewed Ms. Umpleby's November 12, 2012 email requesting a copy of her face-to-face supervision hours achieved in 1998 because she is relocating. The Board determined to have administrative staff check with scanning to obtain a copy of these forms from the archives.

E. Rhonda Ondov, 3-year temp MFT permit holder

The Board reviewed Ms. Ondov's November 13, 2012 email regarding the appropriate title for MFT 3-year temporary permit holders. The Board determined the title as stated on a business card should read as follows: "Marriage and Family Therapy Permit Holder # 1TP23-456"

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Robert Lipkins, Ph.D., Senior Program Director, Professional Examination Services

The Board reviewed the list of New Jersey Marriage and Family Therapy training programs and accepted it as informational.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Supervision Forms

A. Documentation of Marriage and Family Therapy Experience

In a motion by Jose Perez, seconded by Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, the Board determined to edit the section “supervision setting number” to just “supervision setting” eliminating the word “number.” Voting in favor: all.

B. General Counseling Experience

The Board tabled a discussion on General Counseling Experience for the January 10, 2013 meeting.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **January 10, 2012** at 9:30 a.m., Hudson Conference Room, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

2013 Proposed Meeting Dates

January 10, 2013
February 14, 2013
March 14, 2013
April 11, 2013
May 9, 2013
June 13, 2013
July 11, 2013
August 8, 2013
September 12, 2013
October 10, 2013
November 14, 2013
December 12, 2013

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jose Perez, seconded by Ketrin Saud-Maxwell, the Board moved to Executive Session at 11:43am to discuss disciplinary and confidential matters.

XII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting returned to open session at 1:40pm by recommendation.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:41pm by recommendation.

