

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
MIDWIFERY LIAISON COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
June 15, 2009**

A meeting of the New Jersey Midwifery Liaison Committee was held on April 20, 2009 at the Division of Consumer Affairs' Offices, 124 Halsey Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hudson Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey. The meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act with previous notification having been sent to the Secretary of State. The meeting was called to Order by Karen Criss, Chair of the Committee at 1:00 PM

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Karen Criss, C.N.M. (Chair), G. Louise Aucott, C.N.M., M.S., Dina Aurichio, C.P.M.  
Christine Danser, C.N.M., and Karen Shields, C.N.M.

Absent:

Audrey Tashjian, M.D.

Also Present:

DAG Flanzman, William V. Roeder, Executive Director, Maria A. Bertorelli,  
Administrative Assistant, and Chuck Manning, Regulatory Analyst

**MINUTES**

**THE COMMITTEE, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 20, 2009 PUBLIC MINUTES, AS AMENDED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Committee reviewed three resumes submitted for appointment to the Midwifery Liaison Committee. Resumes for Dina Aurichio, L.M., C.P.M. and G. Louise Aucott, C.N.M., M.S. were for reappointments to the Committee, while the resume of Fred Silverberg, M.D. was for appointment to the physician position.

**THE COMMITTEE, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AURICHIO AND AUCOTT AND INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF DR. SILVERBERG.**

The Committee suggested that a "thank you" letter for her service to the Committee be sent to Audrey Tashjian, M.D.

## **2. LEGISLATION**

### **4th QUARTER LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Submitted to the Committee for review was the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter legislative report, received from Burt Liebman Legislative Liaison, Division of Consumer Affairs, which showed the history of bills on which the Committee was asked to comment and the legislative action, if any, taken during the fourth quarter October 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008.

**THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTED THIS AS INFORMATIONAL AND NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME MOVEMENT IN THE ASSEMBLY OF A 3110 (Identical Bill S2231) WHICH SEEKS TO INCLUDE MIDWIVES AMONG THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AUTHORIZED TO CERTIFY MEDICAL CONDITIONS OF INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE ‘TEMPORARY DISABILITY BENEFITS LAW’ AND THE ‘WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY ACT.’ NEW JERSEY EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER PRACTITIONERS ACT**

Submitted to the Committee for review/comments was a draft of the UEVHPA, drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (The “NCCUSL”) after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. This request initially went to Board of Nursing, Medical Board and Veterinary Board. However, the analyst believed that it concerns all healthcare related boards.

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED SUPPORTING THE PROPOSAL AND REQUESTED THAT MIDWIVES BE EXPLICITLY INCLUDED AS COVERED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WITHIN THE BODY OF THE PROPOSED ACT.**

## **3. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Regulatory Analyst, Charles Manning addressed the Committee regarding the reoption to their rules prior to sunset (N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.1). He explained the process and suggested that prior to the next meeting, the Committee members review the current regulations. The Committee accepted this as informational.

## **4. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

***N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.2, 2A.5 AND N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.4 AND 2A.14***

The Committee accepted as informational the proposed amendments to the regulations that were published in the New Jersey Register on June 1, 2009. Comments are due before July 31, 2009. Responses will be developed at the August meeting.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **1. PREPARATION OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR THOSE BORN IN A RESIDENCE.**

Submitted to the Committee for review were materials received from Committee member Aucott

and Danser, concerning the issue of the preparation of birth certificates for infants born in a residence. It was reported that in early April, the State Registrar of Vital Statistics (Mr. Joseph Komosinski) issued a memo after his review of records, that he has determined that there has been a lack of attention in the preparation of home birth certificates. He instructed registrars that blank birth certificates to record home births are not to be handed out to Midwives in batches. Each home birth is to be provided one birth certificate and if one makes a mistake, the “bad” certificate must be returned before a new blank certificate will be issued. The April memo also requires a number of new procedures relating to home births. For example, Midwives have been informed that some of their clients who have had prior home births, went to the Registrar and were told they could not get a certified copy because they needed a copy of the midwife’s license and a letter attesting to the pregnancy, as well as a number of documents to verify proof of residency for the parents and the child. It would appear that in some ways, this new procedure is following the “six point” system of Motor Vehicles.

**THE COMMITTEE REQUESTED THAT THROUGH THE DHSS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BOARD, DR. SINDY PAUL, THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE CONTACT DHSS TO SET UP A MEETING.**

## **2. LINDA PERRY**

Submitted to the Committee for review was a letter sent by licensee Perry, concerning educational requirements for licensure in New Jersey as a certified midwife. The Committee suggested a response be drafted to remind Ms. Perry that the required educational background is defined by statute and the Committee is not able to go beyond the reach of the statute. She may wish to seek the assistance from the accrediting bodies to review their educational requirements. Additionally, the Committee noted that it is fully aware of the CM vacancy and that it has attempted on a number of occasions to reach out to the community to fill the vacancy. Unfortunately those efforts were unsuccessful. As to her other concerns, she should be fully aware that the Department of Health and Senior Services regulates health care facilities in the State of New Jersey. Any changes to those regulations should be addressed to that Department. The Committee also once again recognized that it always strives to be supportive of initiatives that will advance the provision healthcare through the midwifery practice to the citizens of New Jersey.

## **6. INFORMATIONAL**

### **APPOINTMENT DATES**

Submitted to the Committee for review were the dates of appointment of the current Committee members.

Karen Criss, C.N.M. Louise Aucott, C.N.M. reappointed 2009 appointed 2002

Dina Aurichio, C.P.M. Audrey Tashjian, M.D. appointed 2005 appointed 2006

Christine Danser, C.N.M. Karen Shields, C.N.M. reappointed 2008 reappointed 2008

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM