

New Jersey State Board of Optometrists

Regular Session Minutes January 15, 2003

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark on the 6th floor on Wednesday, January 15, 2003. Leonard Steiner, O.D., President of the Board, announced that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 321, P.L., notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed out to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Star Ledger, the Record, the Press of Atlantic City, the Asbury Park Press, and the Trenton Times. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded:

GORDON COMPTON	Present
MITCHELL FINK, O.D.	Absent
JOSEPH SCHKOLNICK, O.D.	Present
LEONARD STEINER, O.D.	Present
LEONARD STRULOWITZ, O.D.	Present
RALPH WHITE	Present

Also present were: SUSAN H. GARTLAND, Executive Director; CARMEN RODRIGUEZ, Deputy Attorney General; LISA PETROWSKI, Assistant to the Executive Director.

I. Public Comment

II. Election of Officers for 2003

Executive Director, Susan H. Gartland, took the chair to conduct the election of Board Officers for 2003.

A motion was by Mr. White and seconded by Dr. Steiner to postpone the election of officers for 2003 until the February 19, 2003 meeting as all the Board members were unable to attend the January 15, 2003 meeting. A vote was taken and two members were in favor of the postponement, two members were not in favor of postponement, and one member abstained from voting, therefore, the vote did not pass. The Board then proceeded with the election of officers for 2003.

Mrs. Gartland called for nominations for President and a motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Dr. Strulowitz to nominate Dr. Steiner for President of the Board for 2003. Mrs. Gartland called for further nominations and there were none. Mr. Compton then made a motion, seconded by Dr. Strulowitz to close the nominations and elect Dr. Steiner President of the Board by acclamation. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

Mrs. Gartland called for nominations for Vice President and a motion was made by Mr. Compton and

seconded by Dr. Strulowitz to nominate Dr. Strulowitz for Vice President of the Board for 2003. Mrs. Gartland called for further nominations and there were none. Mr. Compton then made a motion, seconded by Dr. Steiner to close the nominations. A vote of the Board was taken and three votes were in favor of electing Dr. Strulowitz for Vice President. The majority of the Board present elected Dr. Strulowitz Vice President of the Board for 2003.

Mrs. Gartland called for nominations for Secretary and a motion was made by Dr. Strulowitz and seconded by Dr. Schkolnick to nominate Mr. Compton for Secretary of the Board for 2003. Mrs. Gartland called for further nominations and there were none. Mr. Compton then made a motion, seconded by Dr. Schkolnick to close the nominations and elect Mr. Compton Secretary of the board by acclamation. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

III. Approval of Regular Session Minutes

A. December 18, 2002

A motion was made by Mr. Compton and seconded by Dr. Schkolnick to accept the December 18, 2002 Regular Session Minutes as amended. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. New Business

A. Letter from Steven I. Glassband, O.D.
RE: N.J.A.C. 13:38-1.3 Permissible business structures

Dr. Glassband inquired whether an ophthalmic dispenser and ophthalmic technician were considered "closely allied health care professionals" under N.J.A.C. 13:38-1.3 and whether an optometrist can form a partnership with an optician.

The Board will advise Dr. Glassband that an optometrist cannot form a partnership with an optician and according to N.J.A.C. 13:38-1.3, "Closely allied health care professional" means an individual who provides professional services and is licensed in New Jersey by a professional or occupational licensing board or other State agency, in any of the following fields pursuant to N.J.S.A. 14A:17-3(b): optometry, dentistry, registered professional nursing, physical therapy, or any branch of medicine or surgery.", optician is not considered a "closely allied health care professional" as it is not specifically included in N.J.S.A. 14A:17-3(b).

B. Memorandum from the National Board of Examiners in Optometry
RE: List of Potential Examiners, April 2003 Clinical Skills Examination

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry supplied the Board with a list of potential examiners for the April 2003 Clinical Skills Examination and asked that it identify an optometrist licensed in the State of New Jersey who the Board would object to as an examiner. After the Board reviewed a list of potential examiners for the April 2003 Clinical Skills Examination, a motion was made by Dr. Schkolnick to approve all the optometrists on the list whose licenses are active in the State of New Jersey. The Board reserves any judgment on the optometrists who have a license in New Jersey on inactive status and practice in another State. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

V. Old Business

A. Draft Advertising Policy submitted by Joseph Schkolnick, O.D.
RE: N.J.A.C. 13:38-1.2(l) "An optometrist shall include his or her license and certification number in all advertisements."

The Board reviewed and modified the draft advertising policy submitted by Dr. Schkolnick concerning N.J.A.C. 13:38-1.2(1). The Board will review the modified version of the draft advertising policy at its February 19, 2003.

VI. For Your Information

A. List of officers/directors and shareholders of Stuart M. Lonsk, O.D., P.A. from Stuart M. Lonsk, O.D.

The Board reviewed the list of shareholders, directors, and officers of Stuart M. Lonsk, O.D., P.A. and considered it informational.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Schkolnick and seconded by Mr. White to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 2:00 P.M. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Gartland
Executive Director