

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ADVISORY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
March 22, 2007  
(Sussex Conference Room 6th Floor)**

The meeting of the New Jersey State Occupational Therapy Advisory Council was held on March 22, 2007 at the State Office Building at 124 Halsey Street, 7th Floor, Newark, NJ. The meeting was convened in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act with prior notification having been sent to the Secretary of State and the following publications: The Record in Bergen County, The Star Ledger, Camden Courier Post, Trenton Times, Aisling Swift Press of Atlantic City and Asbury Park Press, to advise of the scheduling of this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Betty Thomas at 9:40 A.M.

Opening Statement -Regarding compliance with the Open Public meeting Act

**Present** - Council Members: Betty Thomas, O.T., Chairperson and Mariann E. Moran, O.T.

**Absent** - Council Member: Aida E. Mendez-Boud, O.T.A., Vice-Chairperson

**Also Present:** Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller, Executive Director Laura L. Anderson and Recording Secretary Maria Ormeno-Bertorelli.

There was one member of the public present: Signed in as A. Baker.

MINUTES - The Council, upon motion made by Betty Thomas and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to accept the January 11, 2007 Public Session Minutes as amended.

## **I. LEGISLATION**

### **1. PERIODIC REPORT ON LEGISLATION**

The Council reviewed a report received from Burt Liebman, Div. Of Consumer Affairs, Legislative liaison, regarding the legislative action taken during the quarter that ended on December 31, 2006, including comments made by the professional boards.

The Council considered this material informational.

## **II. ASSEMBLY BILLS**

### **Bill A 3827**

The Council reviewed Assembly bill A-3827 introduced December 14, 2006. This bill expands scope of the "Health Claims Authorization, Processing and Payment Act," and modifies certain claim procedures.

The Council supports Bill A-3827 because it includes occupational therapists in the definition of health providers, provides a time frame for insurance coverage authorization requests according to medical requirements of the case.

### **Bill A 3899**

The Council reviewed Assembly bill A-3899 introduced January 9, 2007. This bill clarifies time by which public bodies are required to make minutes available to the public.

The Council supports the concept of bill A-3899, but notes that for some public agencies (for instance those agencies that meet bi-monthly), it is not feasible to comply with the time frame established by the bill.

### **III. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### 1. State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners - Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 13:39A

The Council reviewed a copy of the publication of the readopted rules with amendments: N.J.A.C. 13:39A for the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, which appeared in the January 16, 2007 issue of the NJ Register.

The Council considered this material informational.

#### 2. State Board of Medical Examiners - Notice of Final Action on Petition for Rulemaking Professional Practice Structure - N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.16

The Council reviewed a copy of the publication of the Notice of Final Action on Petition for Rulemaking; Professional Practice Structure - N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.16 for the State Board of Medical Examiners, which appeared in the December 18, 2006 issue of the NJ Register.

The Council considered this material informational.

#### 3. State Board of Chiropractic Examiners - Proposed New Rule N.J.A.C. 13:44E-2.15 - Permissible Practice Structure

The Council reviewed and commented on proposed new rule N.J.A.C. 13:44E-2.15 - Permissible Practice Structure, for the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, which appeared in the February 5, 2007 issue of the NJ Register. Comments must be submitted by April 6, 2007.

The Council considered this material informational.

### **IV. REPORTS**

#### 1. FISCAL YEAR 2007 Budget report (1st Half)

The Council reviewed the Fiscal year 2007 Budget report (1st Half), received from Darlene Kane, Budget Officer, Division of Consumer Affairs.

The Council considered this material informational.

### **V. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### 1. National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy ( "NBCOT") At Meeting

The Council reviewed a copy of 2007 NBCOT Certification Examination Handbook, 2007 Certification Renewal Handbook and the 2006 4th Quarter Visa Certificates Issued.

The Council considered this material informational.

### **VI. REINSTATEMENT**

#### D'ANGELO/ Tara License # 46TR000284300

The Council reviewed Ms. D'Angelo's application for reinstatement. The original application, received on February 16, 2006, was incomplete. On February 8, 2007, the Council sent Ms. D'Angelo a final notice, advising her that she must complete her application. That notice was returned by the Postal service as "unclaimed".

The Council, upon motion made by Mariann Moran and seconded by Betty Thomas, voted to administratively close Ms. D'Angelo's application due to failure to respond.

## **VII. APPEARANCE ON APPLICATION 10:00 A.M.**

Lipka/Shelly Applicant #1247447 Application Review

Applicant Lipka submitted an application for licensure to practice as an occupational therapist in New Jersey. In reviewing Ms. Lipka's application it was noted that she had been practicing occupational therapy within the school system without a license. Ms. Lipka appeared before the Council to discuss her application and practice.

Council will report on its decision and action when made public.

## **VIII. APPLICATIONS REVIEW**

The Council reviewed applications for licensure for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. Upon motion made by Mariann Moran and seconded by Betty Thomas, voted to approve the following applicants:

### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS**

Atkins, Celeste  
Baron, Lyndsay  
Canete, Glenda  
Cherian, Reboy  
Cohen, Tzipporah  
Dalal, Nishrin  
Diez-Belano, Gemma  
Dowling, Mary Aveline  
Doyle-Edmondson, Kristin  
Fischer, Tawana  
Friedman, Zahava  
Fund, Hinda  
Gallardo, Henry  
Giudice, Alaina  
Glista, Kristina  
Gubernot, Tina  
Haase, Nina  
Hrychynszyn, Jill  
Isaacson, Elina  
Jaeger, Jessica  
Jain, Nimisha  
Lampa, Olivia  
Leary, Cassie  
Leech, Tiffany  
Leiter, Linda  
Lex, Stephanie  
Mc Hale, Brian  
Mc Dermott, Laurie  
Meyer, Jaime  
Mgidi, Euginia  
Palestro, Lynnette  
Petronella, Grace  
Petruzzell, Andrea  
Posner, Trudy

Povia, Lori  
Querol-Wang, Bethel  
Reil, Kristin  
Rodriguez, Ada  
Rojas, Liwaya  
Rumford, Jessica  
Schechter, Frumah  
Seldowitz, Elisheva

#### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS

Averbook, Zoila  
Beaty, Dorcas  
Miller, Ellen  
Sheridan, Natalie  
Smith, Padra  
Smoot, Yolunda  
Soled, Alexis  
Sugre, Trishia  
Tacknoff, Michelle  
Thompson, Jane  
Welker, Dawn

At 11: 00 A.M. the Advisory Council, upon motion made by Betty Thomas and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to move into the Executive Session to consider and to review consumer complaints, investigative reports and other information received pursuant to the Council's regulations. The result of these deliberations will be made known when and if the Council's determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement action. If the Council determines to issue any sanction, such action will be announced in public session immediately after the executive session.

At 2:45 P.M. the Council, upon motion made by Betty Thomas and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to adjourn the public session.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Anderson  
Executive Director