

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

The meeting of the New Jersey State Occupational Therapy Advisory Council was held on November 15, 2007 at the State Office Building at 124 Halsey Street, 7th Floor, Newark, N.J. The meeting was convened in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act with previous 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 9:50 A.M.

Opening Statement - Regarding compliance with the Open Public meeting Act

Present - Council Members: Betty Thomas, O.T., Chairperson, Aida E. Mendez-Boud, O.T.A., Vice-Chairperson Mariann E. Moran, O.T. and Tiffany Charles, O.T.

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

MINUTES - The Council, upon motion made by Aida E. Mendez-Boud and seconded by Tiffany Charles, voted to accept the September 20, 2007 Public Session Minutes as amended.

I. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. PROPOSED READOPTION: N.J.A.C. 13:44B "Per Diem Compensation for Members of professional and Occupational Boards."

Distributed at the meeting, the Council reviewed the proposed readoption N.J.A.C.13:44B. Per Diem Compensation for Members of Professional and Occupational Boards. The Council notes the members of the Advisory Council serve without compensation pursuant to the provisions of the practice act. The Council asks that the Division consider a legislative amendment that would permit Council members and others serving without compensation on professional and industry boards to receive compensation provided to others similarly serving.

B. Modalities

The Council reviewed a draft reflecting the changes and modifications discussed at the last meeting. Mary Ann Sheehan, regulatory analyst, responded to further questions. Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller will discuss the matter with the deputy attorney general for the Board of Physical Therapy. In order to address any concerns the Physical Therapy Board may have, a committee of the Council will ask to meet with the Physical Therapy Board's committee prior to proposals.

C. Sunset

Regulatory Analyst Maryann Sheehan advised the Council that its rules will "Sunset" in 2008. She discussed the need to review the current rules as part of the readoption process. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting in January 2008. Ms. Sheehan will provide a complete version of the current regulations.

II. REPORTS

Budget Report

The Council reviewed the final Fiscal Year 2007 budget report, submitted by Darlene Kane, Budget Officer.

The Council considered this material as informational.

III. NEW BUSINESS

The Council reviewed proposed meeting dates for the calendar year 2008.

January 10, 2008 July 10, 2008

March 13, 2008 September 11, 2008

May 8, 2008 November 13, 2008

The Council, upon motion made by Aida Mendez-Boud and seconded by Tiffany Charles, approved the proposed meeting dates for the calendar year 2008.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

A. The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. ("AOTA")

The Council reviewed the State Policy/Update. October 2007 Volume 9, Issue 4.

The Council considered this material as informational.

B. Patient's Medication

Jennifer Comerford, O.T., License #46TR00285500

The Council reviewed a letter from Ms. Comerford, an occupational therapist, seeking clarification related to O.T.'s capabilities regarding patient medication under the State's practice act.

The Council, upon motion made by Mariann Moran and seconded by Tiffany Charles, directed that a letter be sent to Ms. Comerford advising her that the occupational therapy scope of practice does not include administering medications or educating patients on appropriate use and efficacy of medications. Such conversations shall be between the patient and physician.

V. INITIAL APPLICATIONS

The Council reviewed applications for licensure, upon motion made by Mariann E. Moran and seconded by Aida E. Mendez-Boud, voted to approve the following applicants:

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Claudine M. Collins Linda E. Buckbinder

Patricia A. Donaghy Leah Itzkowitz

Shirena A. James Jill M. Markowitz

Kimmel A. Morselli Laura M. Acheson

Heather M. Braut Jennifer A. Pierpoint

Jacqueline E. Riotto Kelli A. Himmelreich

Michelle D. Panzarello Vincent C. Thanchan

Allison D. Krulish Meghan E. Bridgeman

Juliane C. Gardner Jill P. Jones

Donna N. Lick Lisa A. Szmyt

Sarah Ann Parlin Karrie L. Olick

Michelle Nee Meghan M. McIntyre

David J. Byrne Lara L. Maxson

Judith M. Wilson Lynne L. Quada

Tejal Lad Megan K. Bartels

Pearlin Nesakumari Hope R. Raphalian
Ajita Chandrakant Sawant Farrahnaz F. Katrak
Smita Jimit Shah Laura Jean Stubecki
Malka F. Koenig Francis T. Cruz
Jennifer A. Leiman Satinderjit K. Gurm

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS

Theresa Ann Connell Claudette Brumant
Jana E. Alvarez Lindsey Dara Jenkins
Bonnie S. Kessler

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

At 11:00 A.M. the Council, upon motion made by Aida E. Mendez-Boud and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to adjourn the Public Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Anderson
Executive Director