

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners Professional Counselor Examiners Committee 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES JANUARY 19, 2012

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

The meeting of the Committee was called to Order in the Hudson Conference Room at 10:08 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

II. <u>ROLL CALL</u>

Present:

Committee Chair, William Green Committee Vice-Chair, Ketrin Saud Maxwell Committee Member, Dana Kaspereen

Also Present:

Nancy Costello Miller, Deputy Attorney General Elaine L. DeMars, Executive Director Agnes Almeida, Administrative Staff Celeste Paige, Administrative Staff

Due to the resignation of Committee members Barbara Maurer and Maria Meehan the Committee operated as a sub-Committee due to the lack of quorum.

III. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>

On a motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Ketrin Saud Maxwell the minutes of December 2011 public meeting were approved as amended.

IV. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>

The following members of the public attended the meeting: Robin Halpern, LAC Dr. Catherine Waters, Caldwell College Dr. Peter Economu, Felician College Denise Talotta, LAC applicant Melissa Niles, LPC applicant

V. <u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY</u>

A. <u>Assembly Bill - 4384</u>

The Bill seeks to allow out-of-state applicants certain special preferences for New Jersey licensure. The Committee determined that the preferences given to out-of-state applicants discriminates against New Jersey residents who apply for licensure. On a motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, the Committee determined to support the decision and recommendation of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy.

B. <u>Assembly Bill 3121</u>

This Bill clarifies the effect of abstention by a member of a public body. The Committee accepted this Bill as written.

C. <u>Assembly Bill 4400</u>

This Bill seeks to exempt individuals with certain types of military service from certain fees and continuing education or professional competency requirements. On a motion by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, seconded by Dana Kaspereen and a unanimous vote, the Committee supports the Bill as written.

D. <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:34-11.2 and 11.5

The Committee reviewed the regulation for the application and educational requirements for professional and associate counselors and accepted as informational.

VI. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT</u>

Executive Director Elaine DeMars informed the Committee of the resignations of Committee Members Barbara Maurer and Maria Meehan.

Ms. DeMars also informed the Committee of her retirement effective February 1, 2012. The Committee agreed to seek the Governor's assistance in filling the vacant positions that now exist as a result of the recent Committee resignations.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Plans of Supervision

The Committee reviewed the Proposed Plan of Supervision forms and determined to require that an individual who provides supervision have a minimum of 2 years of work experience as a licensed professional. The question:

"Have you completed a minimum of two years (3,000 hours) of work experience as a licensed professional with the credential you have indicated below?"

IX. COUNSELOR EDUCATOR PROGRAMS

A. <u>Caldwell College</u>

The correspondence submitted by Caldwell College was tabled for the March 2, 2012 agenda meeting.

B. <u>Chestnut Hill College</u>

The Committee reviewed the curricula submitted by Chestnut Hill College. On a motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, the Committee determined to that the curricula met the minimum requirement for professional counselor licensure.

C. <u>Nova Southeastern University</u>

The Committee reviewed the December 1, 2011 letter submitted by Joyce Silverman, Program Administrator, Nova Southeastern University regarding the Committee's review of their Master's in Mental Health Counseling program. Ms. Silverman's letter informed the Committee of their receipt of the program approval and the Program's efforts to implement substantive changes to the curricula. The letter was accepted as informational.

X. <u>NATIONAL BOARD OF CERTIFIED COUNSELORS (NBCC)</u>

National Counselor Examination Score Report

Committee Chair William Green reported that he spoke with representatives at NBCC to clarify score report statistics.

XI. <u>AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE COUNSELING BOARDS (AASCB)</u>

William Green reported that he attended the AASCB Annual Meeting this month (January 2012) where former Committee Chair J. Barry Mascari and New York State's Executive Director, David Kaplan served as speakers. Mr. Green reported that portability was discussed and that state boards plan to come together to discuss drafting legislation.

XII. <u>NEXT MEETING</u>

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for February 2, 2012.

| March 1, 2012 | August 2, 2 | 2012 - cancelled |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| April 5, 2012 | September 6, 2 | 2012 |
| May 3, 2012 | October 4, 2 | 2012 |
| June 7, 2012 | November 1, 2 | 2012 |
| July 19, 2012 | December 6, 2 | 2012 |

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by Ketrin Saud Maxwell the Committee moved to Executive Session to conduct four investigative inquiries, six complaints, three license reinstatements and other pending confidential and disciplinary matters.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dana Kaspereen, seconded by William Green, the meeting adjourned 4:12 p.m.