

**PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 3, 2005**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Professional Counselors Examiners Committee was called to order at 9:47 a.m. by Committee Chair, J. Barry Mascari who read the notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chairman, J. Barry Mascari
Committee Member Abbey F. Bradway
Committee Member Jerry Cohen
Committee Member Ronald A. Rossell
Committee Member Edward D Stroh

Staff Present:

Executive Director Elaine L. DeMars
Deputy Attorney General, Mileidy Perez
Administrative Staff, Celeste Sweeper
Administrative Staff, Agnes Almeida

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Ronald Rossell, the minutes of January 6, 2005 were approved as presented.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public members present.

V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

There were no new legislative/regulatory matters to report.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

License Renewal

It was reported that to date there are 2,138 active professional, 208 active rehabilitation and 92 active associate counselors. Seventy-three (73) professional counselors, 19 rehabilitation and 6 associate counselors have elected to place their licences on inactive status. There are currently 434 professional counselors and 101 rehabilitation counselors with expired licenses. To date there are 13 professional counselors, 2 rehabilitation counselors and 1 associate counselor currently in the reinstatement process. The expiration date for the current biennial cycle was November 30, 2004.

Monmouth University Invitation

The Committee has been invited to be a part of a presentation at Monmouth University to inform the students

and faculty of the requirements for professional and associate counselor licensure in New Jersey. The date requested for the presentation was February 23, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. Executive Director DeMars will correspond with Monmouth University to explore arrangements for alternate dates as Committee members are not available for the requested date.

NBCC Annual Meeting - August 2005

The National Board of Certified Counselors will hold its annual meeting in August 2005. NBCC will pay the travel expenses for one committee member from each representative state. On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Ronald Rossell, the Committee voted to have Jerry Cohen represent New Jersey at the Annual Meeting.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Kathy Morelli

The Committee reviewed an e-mail submitted by Kathy Morelli, who wrote to inquire as to whether hours worked as an Access Clinician qualify as supervised counseling experience. The Committee agreed to send her an application and the rules and regulations governing professional counseling in New Jersey. Ms. Morelli is to be advised that a completed application must be submitted in order for the Committee to determine eligibility for licensure.

B. Greg Rearick

The Committee reviewed correspondence received from Greg Rearick who questioned the existence of geographic restrictions to practice. The Committee will write to Mr. Rearick to ask that he explain in detail what he means by "geographic restrictions".

C. Barbara Hawes

The Committee reviewed correspondence submitted by Barbara Hawes, who asked that the Committee accept her graduate coursework. The Committee will respond to Ms. Hawes informing her that verification that she has a Masters degree is required. According to the documents provided a conferment does not seem apparent.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. AASCB Annual Meeting

The American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) held its Annual Meeting January 13 -15, 2005. Committee member Barry Mascari attended in his role as AASCB Treasurer. Dr. Mascari reported that approximately 120 persons attended. There was an increased representation of rehabilitation counselors' groups over previous years. In AASCB's attempt to facilitate the professional mobility of licensed counselors, AASCB leadership will begin working with individual state regulatory agencies to determine methods to recognize each state's licensure requirements while allowing for out-of-state licensed individuals to demonstrate substantial equivalency for licensure.

Dr. Mascari noted that the 2006 AASCB's conference will focus on the issue of professional identity and methods and strategies to protect the public.

B. Rutgers Continuing Education and Professional Development Program The Committee received an e-mail from Susan Castano, LCSW, of the Rutgers Continuing Education and Professional Development Program (RCEPDP). Ms. Castano requested approval for the RCEPDP as an approved provider. The Committee will respond to Ms Castano by directing her to verify Rutgers University's NBCC approved provider status.

C. Newsletter

Information regarding continuing education requirements will be included in the Committee's next newsletter. The newsletter is expected to go to print this spring.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee is March 3, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, New Jersey.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Ronald Rossell, the Committee voted to move into Executive Session at 10:45 a.m. to review applications for licensure, consumer complaints and disciplinary matters.

XII. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

On a motion by Edward Stroh, seconded by Ronald Rossell, the Committee voted to approve the following applications:

Professional Counselors

Andrezejewski, Anna
Lancieri-Panzer, Geraldine
Bradford, Kathryn L.
Melmick, Donna
DiDomenico, Teresa
Newhaus, Christine
Dolan, Marlene
O'Hara, Lynn
Duffy, Megan
Rosbert, Theresa
Durkin, Kerri
Seoane, Natalie
Dvorin, Cindy
Tangeman, Eileen
Garodnick, Cheryl
Yaccarino, Marie
Hegstrom, Verna

Associate Counselors

Agens, Maureen
Cannin-Schuck, Margaret
Jones, Courtney
Martinovich, Judith
Sawers, Jill

Out of State

Carroll, Charlotte
Neill, Douglas

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Jerry Cohen, the meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. DeMars
Executive Director