

New Jersey State Board of
Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners

Professional Counselor Examiners Committee

September 7, 2001

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

This scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Sussex Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Chairman Edward W. Stroh
Vice Chairman Betty N. Dodd
Committee Member Jerry Cohen
Committee Member Ronald A. Rossell

Absent:

Committee Member David N. Swomley

Staff present:

Executive Director Diane I. Romano
Deputy Attorney General Marilyn Bair
Celeste Sweeper, Head Clerk
Susan Flores, Secretary to the Executive Director

Four members of the public was present.

A quorum was present for the entire meeting. The meeting was presided over by Edward Stroh.

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L., 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing to the Office of the Secretary of State, the Newark Star ledger, the Trenton Times, the Bergen Record and the Courier Post.

C. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion of Betty Dodd, seconded by Ronald Rossell and unanimous vote, the Minutes of the June 1, 2000 public session of the Committee were approved as submitted.

On a motion of Betty Dodd, seconded by Ronald Rossell and unanimous vote, the Minutes of the July 6, 2000 public session of the Committee were approved with amendments.

D. REVIEW OF CREDENTIALS

On a motion of Ronald Rossell, seconded by Betty Dodd and unanimous vote, the Committee accepted the list of approved applicants for licensure from the June 1, 2000 and July 6, 2000 meetings.

1. Louis Norton

Mr. Norton was unable to appear before the Committee to discuss his course work because of an unforeseen work schedule. He is scheduled to appear at the October meeting.

2. Gary Young

The Committee interviewed Mr. Young in person. Mr. Young has applied for licensure as both a Professional and Rehabilitation Counselor. He was questioned about his work experience as indicated on his regular route application. On a motion of Betty Dodd, seconded by Ronald Rossell and unanimous vote, the Committee went into closed session for the purpose of discussing confidential matters regarding Mr. Young's application. Upon returning to open session the Committee agreed that Mr. Young meets the requirements for both Licensed Professional and Rehabilitation Counselor under the grandfather provision of the statutes and can be approved for licensure once he submits documentation of five (5) years of counseling experience. He was directed to cease and desist practicing as a professional counselor and refrain from performing any type of testing or counseling until he is officially licensed. Copies of his letterhead, business card and advertisements were also requested.

3. Bernadette Callanan

Mrs. Callanan appeared before the Committee to discuss her application for licensure and her Master's degree course work. Mrs. Callanan does not have a degree in counseling. Copies of her course work descriptions must be forwarded to the Board to show how it relates to counseling.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Betty Dodd suggested that we set aside a date to meet with representatives of New Jersey colleges which offer counseling programs. The Counselor/Educators and the Committee will meet to update one another on new information and current issues regarding licensure. The date for the open forum is set for October 13, 2000. Colleges across the state that offer counselor programs will be notified.
2. Ronald Rossell mentioned the vacant position on the Committee. All recommendations for this position should be submitted to the office of the Governor's Appointments Counsel.
3. Betty Dodd asked Mrs. Romano to look into the Committee's receiving payment for their meeting attendances.
4. Information about the State Licensing Counseling Boards convention in Florida for January is needed. The dates and exact location are requested.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Allison Bressler

Ms. Bressler had a question about supervision for Licensed Professional Counselors. Applicant

must submit an application for licensure in order for the Committee to adequately evaluate her question.

2. Alfred Borrelli

Mr. Borrelli is a Licensed Professional Counselor and is inquiring whether a Professional Counselor can administer tests for a fee. The Committee determined that a counselor may engage in testing with the proper training or experience.

3. Bonnie Dirkson

Ms. Dirkson inquired as to whether she can get credit for her one-year 1,200 hours of internship at Montclair University. In order to use 3,000 hours of experience, 2 years of supervision, an applicant must complete 30 credits after the Master's degree and the 30 credits must clearly be related to counseling (N.J.S.A. 13:34-11.3). In order for an applicant to satisfy the experience requirements he/she cannot use internship as experience, unless the internship course is used to satisfy education requirements. A certified school psychologist is not an acceptable supervisor.

4. Glen Murphy

Mr. Murphy is asking the Committee's approval to supervise a student who is in his final year Master's program. The Committee determined to advise Mr. Murphy that experience can only be evaluated as a documented occurrence. The student should submit an application for Associate Counselor and a plan for supervision once education experience has been met.

5. Judy Kelly

Ms. Kelly submitted a question concerning supervision. The Committee determined that an application for Licensed Associate Counselor must be submitted with a supervision plan for the Committee's review. The Committee does not answer hypothetical questions.

6. Janice Pointer and Marianne Lettieri

Ms. Pointer and Ms. Lettieri are both requesting permission to wait for the next upcoming renewal to submit their license fees. They were approved for licensure via the grandfather provision and have not practiced counseling as yet. The Committee determined that they must pay the initial licensing fee and the fee for upcoming renewal in order to keep their licenses up to date.

7. Catherine Herb

Ms. Herb has many questions regarding licensure, supervision and experience. She will be sent an application for licensure and the rules and regulations. This should answer any questions she may have. The licensure application must be submitted for further review.

On a motion of Betty Dodd, seconded by Jerry Cohen and unanimous vote, the Committee determined to send letters to all of those individuals who sent in correspondence.

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Willowglen Academy

Willowglen Academy is a private for-profit behavioral health care organization which receives almost 100% state funding. The Committee agreed that it is deemed an exempt setting because it

is an educational institution.

2. **S-1408**

Senate bill No. 1408 concerning the ability of professional licensing boards to protect the public was discussed. The Committee determined to support this bill.

3. **Division of Law billing**

The Committee accepted this report as informational.

H. REGULATORY

The Committee agreed not to make any comments or take any action regarding the proposed regulations until Danielle Swenson, Regulatory Analyst, returns from maternity leave. This item was tabled until the November meeting.

I. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. on a motion of Jerry Cohen, seconded by Ronald Rossell and unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE I. ROMANO
Executive Director

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