

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
October 24, 2007

I. The Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW at 10:20 A.M.

II. The meeting of the State Board of Social Work Examiners was held at 124 Halsey Street, the 6th floor, on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The following attendance was recorded for these minutes:

III. Roll Call

Henry Acosta, MSW, LSW, Vice-Chair Professional Member Present
Leonard Altamura, DSW, LCSW Professional Member Present
Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW, Chair Professional Member Present
Kathleen Ellis Public Member Absent
Maxine Lisboa, MSW, LSW Professional Member Present
Louise A. Murray, DSW, LSW Professional Member Absent
Paul J. St. Onge, Esq. Public Member Absent
Wanetta V. Williams, BSW, CSW Professional Member Present
Lorna Hines-Cunningham, MS, LCSW Government Member Present

Also present were Executive Director Kay K. McCormack, DAG Jodi C. Krugman, and Board staff Theresa Brundage.

IV. Review of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Acosta and Ms Lisboa to approve the Public Session minutes of September 26, 2007 as presented. The vote was unanimous.

V. Public Comment

-Walter X. Kalman Jr., MSW, LSW, Executive Director of the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) was present but declined comment.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Kay K. McCormack discussed the following matters with Board members.

-Congratulations are offered to Board Chair Doreen Bobby and Vice-Chair Henry Acosta on their re-appointments by the Governor to serve as Board members for another term each.

-Mrs. McCormack distributed the proposed re-adoption notice for N.J.A.C. 13:44B which defines the Per Diem Compensation for Members of Professional and Occupational Boards. The Board comments unanimously in favor of the proposed re-adoption.

-The Board reviewed as informational the Attorney General's October 18, 2007 news release detailing the planned improvement of services provided to consumers and regulated professionals by the 42 State licensing boards. The proposals resulted from an internal review which was conducted during the summer 2007 and which incorporates the specific areas collectively identified for improvement by the boards' Executive Directors. The challenge will be effecting the necessary changes despite the imposed budgetary constraints. Some goals are long range plans while others are already underway.

VII. Review of Clinical Supervisors' Credentials

A motion was made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Ms. Lisboa approving the following clinical supervisors recommended as qualified by review. The vote was unanimous.

Supervisors

Rita L. Lilly, LCSW-PA
Martha L. Meadows, LCSW-PA

Patricia M. Payne, LCSW-NY

Richard A. Wandersee, LCSW-MN

Bonnie H. Heine, Ph.D., CAC, LPC
Licensed Psychologist-PA

Dale A. Schneider, LCSW, ID
Stephanie Miner, LCSW, UT

Randall E. Rupp, LCSW-LA

Susan Ritholz, LCSW-NY

Lili Rysz, M.D.
Licensed Psychiatrist-NY

VIII. Vote on Candidates Proposed for Licensure and Certification

A motion was made by Ms. Lisboa and seconded by Dr. Altamura approving those candidates listed (attached) as qualified in their category based on a review of their application documents and in accordance with the Statute and Regulations. The vote was unanimous.

IX. Continuing Education (CE)

A. Vote on recommendations-A motion was made by Dr. Altamura and Ms. Lisboa to approve the listed presentations as recommended by Board members' review. The vote was unanimous. These presentations will be reflected in the monthly update of Board approved CEs which is available at the Board's website and by hardcopy from the Board office.

B. Problematic CE Presentations

1. Problematic CE contents were individually discussed and those found acceptable by the Board will be added to the monthly listing of approved CE sources.

C. Correspondence

1. The Board considered the CE materials submitted by Dr. Kathleen Pottick, Ph.D. to support her claim of satisfying the 40 CE credits required to reinstate her 2006-2008 clinical license. Dr. Murray reviewed Dr. Pottick's voluminous publications and presentations and recommended they be approved as satisfying more than the 40 credit requirement, including the 20 hours designated as clinical content. While the Board agreed with Dr. Murray's recommendation, Dr. Pottick is asked to qualify how her position as a member of the editorial board for the Professional Ethics Journal satisfies the 5 credit Ethics requirement.

2. The Institute for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology submitted its proposed clinical supervision course content for review. Of the 15 planned weeks of study, the Board approved weeks 1 through 6 for 1.5 clinical credits each for a total of 9 CE credit hours. Weeks 7 through 15 are rejected, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:44G-6.3(c) as "supervisory

sessions”.

X. Regulations

A motion was made by Ms. Lisboa and seconded by Mr. Acosta proposing the readoption of Chapter 44G as amended prior to its sunset expiration on June 10, 2008. The vote was unanimous. The proposal includes the provision to formulate a definition of “concrete” social work services for section 13:44G-1.2. Prior to the November 2007 meeting, the Board requests that Dr. Murray research a textbook definition of “concrete” social work services to be included in the readopted version of section 13:44G-1.2.

XI. Correspondence

Elizabeth Christian, Esq., of Giordano, Halleran and Ciesla in Red Bank, N.J., questioned whether a licensed clinical social worker, and only this level practitioner, could accept verbal orders from a New Jersey licensed physician, and implement those orders at the physician’s request, for a therapeutic hold or the use of a time-out room when working with children in order to de-escalate potentially dangerous behaviour. The law firm represents a children’s partial hospitalization program which is located in a non-profit licensed New Jersey hospital. The Board’s interpretation is sought as the program submits its proposals for policies and procedures to the Division of Children and Families for approval. Ms. Christian explains that, since physicians are not always onsite, the facility hopes to have the flexibility to permit the LCSWs to initiate the contact with the physician when clinically indicated. In response the Board reminds Ms. Christian that New Jersey’s Social Workers’ Licensing Act neither prohibits nor permits this activity in the scope of an LCSW. Therefore, the client is encouraged to consult with any/all applicable State regulations adopted by the New Jersey Division of Children and Families for guidance which may apply in this situation.

XII. Notice of Recently Filed Public Discipline-FYI

1. I/M/O Heather Foley, MSW, LSW-Consent Order for the provision of unlicensed clinical services (prior to her licensure as an LSW)
2. I/M/O Alexander G. Gotay (CSW revoked July 31, 2007)

Mr. Gotay was recently sentenced in Superior Court to serve three years in State prison and pay \$70,000.00 in restitution as a result of his July 27, 2007 guilty plea for unlawful theft of money from his elderly client. At approximately the same time, the Board concluded its investigation of Mr. Gotay which resulted in the Board’s revocation of his social work certification for third degree theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

XIII. The Board agreed to conclude Public Session at 12:20 P.M.

XIV. By unanimous consent, the Board re-entered Public Session at 4:50 P.M. to adjourn for the day.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay K. McCormack
Executive Director