

Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians  
1000 Washington Street 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Room 1C, Boston, MA 02118

Date:

June 3, 2015 Time: 10:00am

Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present:**

William Carleton (WC)  
Thomas Merrill (TM)  
Martin Bregman (MB)  
Lawrence Clayman (LC)

**Staff Present:**

Michael Hawley, Exec Dir.  
Yadianette Rivera, Administrator  
James O'Connor, Board Counsel  
Pamela Mogavero

**Members of the Public Present:**

Denise Cook  
James M. Morris  
Mary Ann Buonomo  
Karidad Baez  
Jonathan Parrelli  
Lisa Bourque  
George Bourque  
Catherine Selucky  
Cheryl Pearson  
Michael Tanei  
Bill Eichhold  
Jodi Best  
Ahhyee Ma  
Justine Pearson  
Janice Muradali  
Matt Berson  
Dibby Bartlett  
Blair Wong

**Called To Order:**

- Meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by WC
- WC reviewed exit procedures in the case of a fire

**Board Business :**

- Report from Executive Director
  - July Board Meeting cancelled
  - The Division of Professional Licensure's new Deputy Director, Robert Fortes, was introduced to the Board.

**Discussion:**

- ABO/NCLE Practical Exam update

- ABO/NCLE Basic Competency Exams in Spanish

**Review Meeting Minutes and Executive Minutes:**

**LC moved to accept the Public Session & Executive Session minutes from May 6, 2015 meeting. TM seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Apprenticeship Extension Requests:**

**Karidad Baez**- Ms. Baez apprenticeship began November 10, 2008. She began working at Four Eyes February 17, 2012. A memo was received at the Office of Apprentice Standards on February 26, 2013 stating that Ms. Baez stopped her employment at Four Eyes. That is when the apprenticeship was cancelled. Ms. Baez continued working until September 2013. Ms. Baez has not taken the ABO or NCLE.

**TM Moved to grant extension until June 2016 with the condition that Ms. Baez submits proof of hours. MB seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Jody Best**- Ms. Best apprenticeship began in 2009. She has passed the ABO exam. She has not passed the NCLE exam and states that she has taken the exam every time it has been available.

**TM Moved to grant extension until 2016. MB seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Stakeholder Outreach listening session:**

The listening session was held pertaining to Executive Order 562. The Board staff introduced themselves and Mr. Hawley explained the purpose of the listening session. The following individuals offered comments:

**James M. Morris** – Mr. Morris represents ABO and NCLE but he spoke on behalf of his son, who was born with a defect in his eye. The family visited several doctors and the son went through several surgeries. Because of a licensed Dispensing Optician from the state of Massachusetts the surgery was successful and son lived a normal life. Mr. Morris mentions that the Board built the structure it needs. Mr. Morris said that the regulations are excellent and that as a Board and profession we should not change the “core of who we are.”

**Jonathan Parrelli** – Independent Optician concerned with the safe guard of the public. Mr. Parrelli wants the existing regulations to remain in -place to ensure that individuals can provide better services and the industry can maintain its integrity. Mr Parelli noted that it is not just the wearer of the corrective lenses who are protected but the rest of the public also benefit from client’s corrective lenses.

**Lisa Bourque** – Ms. Bourque concerns are with Massachusetts apprentices' safety and health of public and is in favor of the current regulations and stressed that they should be protected

**George Bourque** – Mr. Bourque's concerns are with keeping consumers safe. He also suggested adding more continuing education requirement to be on the same level as other health professions.

**Catherine Selucky** – Ms. Selucky specializes in contact lens fitting and dispensing. She mentions the careers education has increased and other states should aspire to achieve like the Dispensing Opticians in Massachusetts. Ms. Selucky did not want the regulations pertaining to contact lenses changed as they are a great safeguard for the industry and public alike.

**William Eichhold** – Mr. Eichhold is the owner of a small optical store. He believes that the regulations are successful and feels that all the Dispensing Opticians should keep up with their continuing education requirements as they are critical to professional development and public safety. Mr. Eichhold said that Massachusetts is a model for other states to follow and that the current regulations are fine the way they are currently written.

**Dibby Bartlett** – Ms Bartlett is as Board Member from OAM and proud to be a Dispensing Optician. She said that Massachusetts Opticians have risen to prominence in the industry and its national professional organization in large part due to the regulatory framework of the Board. Ms. Bartlett stressed that the regulations for the industry are some of the best in the country and should not be pared down

**Blair Wong** – A 34 year member of the Opticians Association thanks the Board for the importance of public service and the leadership of Dispensing Opticians. Mr. Wong also stressed that the Board's regulations are excellent and should not be pared down because it would weakened the integrity of the profession and threaten public safety. Mr. Wong noted that Massachusetts is one of the leading States in the country in the profession which explains why so many Massachusetts opticians are in leadership positions in the industry's national organizations.

**Introduction from Deputy Director, Robert Fortes:**

**Wall Certificates:**

- Lindsay Bolarinho, 6447
- Paul Geller, 6460
- Lynn Pimental, 6461

**Open Session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance meeting:**

- **James Morrison:** Mr. Morrison, representing the ABO and NCLE gave a preview presentation of a Computer Based Test of a new practical exam.
- **Board counsel:** To increase efficiency and recognizing that the Board routinely revokes licensees who Default in enforcement proceeding Board counseled requested the Board to make the following

“The Board hereby delegates the authority to execute Default Final Decisions and Orders on behalf of the Board and in so doing revoke current licenses or revoke the right to renew licenses that are lapsed or expired.” This delegation is given to the Board’s Executive Director, its Associate Executive Director, or to the Deputy Director of Policy and Boards at the Division of Professional Licensure.

**LC Moved to allow authority. TM seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Pamela Mogavero:** After 26 years working for Division of Professional Licensure Ms. Mogavero announces her retirement. Her last day will be June 30, 2015. The Board enthusiastically thanked her for her service.

**11:44 a.m. Adjournment:**

**LC moved to adjourn the meeting. MB seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,




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Yadianette Rivera  
Board Administrator

**Documents used for this Board Meeting:**

- Copy of ABO/NCLE Practical Exam Update Memo
- Copy of ABO/NCLE Basic Competency Exams in Spanish Memo
- Copy of May 6, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes
- Karidad Baez apprenticeship profile and e-mail requesting extension
- Lindsay Bolarinho wall certificate
- Paul Geller wall certificate
- Lynn Pimental wall certificate