

Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians
1000 Washington Street 1st Floor Room 1C, Boston, MA 02118
Date: March 2, 2016 Time: 10:30am

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

William Carleton (WC)
Gary Peters (GP)
Martin Bregman (MB)
Larry Clayman (LC)

Staff Present:

Michael Hawley, Executive Director
Shara Benedetti, Assoc. Exec. Director
Monique Brown, Administrator
James O'Connor, Board Counsel

Members of the Public Present:

Ashlie Perkins
Stephanie Rivest
Carlos Madureira
Lorraine O'Connor
Mary Ann Buonomo

10:35 AM: Meeting called To Order:

- Meeting was called to order at 10:35 am by WC
- WC reviewed exit procedures in the case of a fire

Review Meeting Minutes:

- **GP moved to accept the Public Session minutes from February 3, 2016 meeting. MP seconded. Motion passed unanimously**

Board Business:

- Introduction of new Associate Executive Director, Shara Benedetti. Ms. Benedetti replaces Colleen as Associate Executive Director. The Board welcomed Ms. Benedetti.
- Report from Executive Director, Michael Hawley.
 - E-Licensing Update – Mr. Hawley indicated that the new target implementation date has changed from August, 2016 to October, 2016. Testing is slated to begin soon.
- Report from Board Counsel, James O'Connor.
 - Executive Order 562 Update – Mr. O'Connor indicated that the regulation changes drafted by the board have been sent to the Office

- of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation for further review and approval.
- RFR – Mr. O’Connor discussed the Board’s requirements for a practical exam. The Board discussed whether or not the exam should include contact lens questions. Also discussed was whether or not vertex distances and frame tiles should be added to the measuring equipment requirement. The Board advised Mr. O’Connor to add all of the above to the RFR.
- Report from Chief Investigator, Christopher Carroll.
 - No Report.

Discussion:

- NCSB – The NCSB sent documentation of their practical exam requirements. Exam discussion was held in the RFR portion of Board Counsel’s report. The Document was Read and filed.

Apprenticeship Extension Requests:

Stephanie Rivest– Ms. Rivest appeared before the board. She was granted an extension a year ago and since then has passed the ABO but has not yet taken the NCLE exam. She indicated that she has received preparation materials and is scheduled to take the next available NCLE exam in May. **LC moved to grant Ms. Rivest a one year extension with the condition that she continue to take each available sitting of the NCLE until she passes or until the end of the year. GP seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Carlos Madureira– Mr. Madureira appeared before the board. He has reached the end of his apprenticeship but has not yet passed either the ABO or NCLE exam. He indicated the personal circumstances diverted his attention from the examinations. **GP moved to grant Mr. Madureira and extension with the condition that he take each available sitting of the ABO and then NCLE until he passes or until the end of the year. MB seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting:

Lorraine O’Connor of the Division of Apprentice Standards informed the Board that an individual who had completed a course of study at an optometry school, wanted

to know whether that course of study could be substituted for the 2 years of Opticianry School required in lieu of apprenticeship for DO licensure. The Board indicated that it would need to review the transcript to see if the course of study was comparable. Ms. O'Connor agreed to request the individual to forward the transcript to the Executive Director for review. If the transcript is provided in a timely fashion, the question will be placed on the agenda for the April Board meeting.

The Board Chair indicated that it would be helpful to have information on Massachusetts applicants' performance on the ABO and NCLE exams in order to determine whether there are particular areas where more or better training would be in order. The Board directed the Executive director to reach out to the ABO to see whether it would be possible to get such results.

11:32 a.m. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Hawley
Executive Director

Documents used in the open meeting:

- Agenda for DO Board Meeting of March 2, 2016
- Draft Minutes from the February 3, 2016 meeting.
- Document from NCSB outlining the features of its practical exam.
- Stephanie Rivest apprenticeship extension request
- Carlos Madureira apprenticeship extension request