

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS
BOARD MEETING

July 19, 2022
VIA WebEx

(OPEN SESSION)
MINUTES

Board Members

Present: Claire Santarelli, Chair | Commissioner's Designee
Joanne Calista, Vice Chair | Community Health Worker Training
Organization Representative
Susan Dargon-Hart | Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Representative
Sharon George | Community Health Worker 4
Denise Lau, Secretary | Public Member
Hugo Santos | Community Health Worker 3

Board Members

Not Present: None

Staff Present:

Steven Joubert | Executive Director – Multi-Boards, BHPL
Kayla Mikalauski | Office Support Specialist – Multi-Boards, BHPL
Mary Strachan | Board Counsel - Office of the General Counsel, DPH

I. Call to Order | Determination of Quorum:

Ms. Claire Santarelli, Board Chair, called the meeting of the Board of Certification of Community Health Workers to order at 1:08 P.M. and provided verbal notice of recording. A quorum was established with members present via WebEx via roll call as follows: Claire Santarelli: Present; Joanne Calista: Present; Susan Dargon-Hart: Present; Sharon George: Present; Denise Lau: Present; Hugo Santos: Present. Absent: None

II. Conflict of Interest | Approval of Regular Session Agenda

Ms. Santarelli asked members to review the agenda.

DISCUSSION:

Conflicts: None.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Susan Dargon-Hart and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

Document: July 19, 2022 Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes: January 11, 2022

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Lau suggested that Board staff change the choice of her wording in the minutes on Page 4 regarding the topic of monthly board meetings. Mr. Joubert acknowledged and apologized and stated he would take care of it.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the January 11, 2022, minutes as amended by Ms. Lau, seconded by Ms. Joanne Calista, and passed unanimously by roll-call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

Document: January 11 2022, Minutes

Covid-Contiuning Education Remote Provision

IV. A. 272 CMR 7.02_ Extend Waiving In-Person to Remote Instruction

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Santarelli stated that she believes that hybrid has become the new normal. She stated she believes it would improve the work force if hybrid stayed as an option at this time. Ms. Calista agreed and stated she believes that this continues to be a good option especially with the new variants that keep coming out. Ms. Dargon-Hart stated that hybrid is very much a convenient aspect, but people do learn differently, and she believes that at some point we do have to return back to in person training.

Ms. Santarelli acknowledged everyone's thoughts and would like to see this waiver extended for the next year.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to extended waiver until July 31, 2023, seconded by Ms. Joanne Calista and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

V. CHW Education and Training Applications

A. Lowell Community Health Center

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Dargon-Hart stated that she believes this application was clean, easy to look at, and very well done. She states it meets all requirements and stated the Community Health education contributes to the incredible Community Health Workers at Community Health centers. Lastly, she also stated that she thinks it is incredible and very important that 70% of the educators are giving back and have been Community Health Workers themselves.

All board members agreed with Ms. Dargon-Hart's remarks.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to approve the Lowell application as presented, seconded by Ms. Joanne Calista, and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

Document: Lowell Community Health Center Application and attachments

B. Holyoke Community College

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Santarelli asked Ms. Strachan if it is ok to have the terminology of Co-Teach in the application. Ms. Strachan stated that she was looking at 272 CMR 5.03 regulation and stated she was looking at the word 'faculty' and stated that "at least 40% of the hours of instruction shall be taught or co-taught by faculty who are Community Health Workers or Community Health Worker Trainers" Ms. Strachan said she believes that the terminology in the application follows the language of the regulations and believes that the application is ok to approve.

Ms. Santarelli thanked her for explaining and asked any other board members if they had any other questions regarding the Holyoke application.

No members had further questions, so Ms. Santarelli made a motion to approve.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to approve the Holyoke CC application as presented, seconded by Mr. Hugo Santos and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

Document: Holyoke Community College Application and attachments

Tufts University/Public Health and Community Medicine

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Santarelli and board members reviewed the application and had a few follow up questions. Unfortunately the Tufts representative was not on the WebEx meeting to answer the members questions. Mr. Joubert said we would be able to email the representative with any questions they may have.

Ms. Santarelli asked Ms. Strachan if they were to follow up and make changes to their questions could they do a follow up with them in the next meeting rather than having to resubmit the whole application. Ms. Strachan said that was ok.

Ms. Calista asked Mr. Joubert to relay to the Tufts representative that they would specifically like the percentage of online education and in person training. They would like the exact percentage, demonstrating what the policy states. She also stated that the Board would like to know for all Community Health Worker Educators- how many of them have experience as a CHW, and if so how long? She stated as a follow up to the second question how long has Community Health Worker Education and Training been provided to the General Public? Lastly, Ms. Santarelli stated that she has noticed the program does not offer practicum experience while in the program, and if this is something that they would like to incorporate they can present to the board the next meeting.

Ms. Santarelli asked if any other board members had problems with the application.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to defer the Tufts application to the August board meeting, seconded by Ms. Denise Lau and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

VI. Continuing Education Applications:

1 Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health (MCOSH)

DISCUSSION:

After board members reviewed the Continuing Ed application, they did not have any questions regarding the application and thought that the application was good for approval

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to approve the Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health (MCOSH), seconded by Ms. Denise Lau and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

2. Point 32 Health Engaging a Person with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

DISCUSSION:

After board members reviewed the Continuing Ed application, they did not have any questions regarding the application and thought that the application was good for approval.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Claire Santarelli to approve the Point 32 application as presented, seconded by Ms. Denise Lau and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

3. Strong Roots Counseling Expanding the Circle of Support in the Perinatal Period-
Training for providers on mental health, screening, treatment approaches, and
resources

DISCUSSION:

After board members reviewed the Continuing Ed application, they did not have any questions regarding the application and thought the application was good for approval.

ACTION:

Motion by Ms. Joanne Calista to approve the Strong Roots Counseling application as presented, seconded by Ms. Claire Santarelli and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Susan Dargon-Hart: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 3:00 pm and a board member had to leave the meeting, due to this quorum would no longer be present. Mr. Joubert stated that all other items on the Agenda have been deferred and will be put on the August agenda.

* Ms. Dargon Hart left the meeting*

Ms. Strachan stated that they need a motion and a roll call to adjourn the meeting.
Ms. Santarelli stated that Ms. Dargon Hart had already logged out of the meeting.
Ms. Strachan explained how important it is to make sure this is done in the future, she asked for a roll call vote for the members still on the meeting.

Roll-call vote as follows:: Claire Santarelli: yes; Joanne Calista: yes; Sharon George: yes; Denise Lau: yes; Hugo Santos: yes. Absent: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None.

The next meeting of the Board of Certification of Community Health Workers is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022.

Respectfully submitted:

The Board of Certification of Community Health Workers.