

Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians

Public Session Minutes

Date: January 5, 2022 Time: 10:00 a.m.

A regularly scheduled open public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians (“the Board”) was held remotely by video conference and telephone pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021: *An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency* signed into law on June 16, 2021.

Board Members Present:

David Fogg
Deanna Kurlowecz, Board Chair
Marty Bregman
Gary Peters

Staff Present:

Sheila York, Board Counsel
Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director

Meeting called To Order:

- Ms. Kurlowecz called the meeting to order at 10:02 am and established a quorum via calling attendance: Gary Peters and Deanna Kurlowecz participating via video, David Fogg and Marty Bregman participating via audio.
- Exit and Evacuation procedures were tabled.

Review Meeting Minutes:

- Public Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2021: **Mr. Fogg moved to accept the minutes as amended to clarify that the version of the CEPA that the Board approved was the 2010 CEPA agreement under which the Board will continue to review requests on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Peters seconded. Motion to accept December 8, 2021 minutes by a roll call vote: Ms. Kurlowecz: “Yes”, Mr. Peters: “Yes”, Mr. Fogg: “Yes”, Mr. Bregman: “Yes”.**

Board Business:

- **Report from Executive Director, Thomas Burke**
Mr. Burke reported that Board staff is working with the Division of Apprentice Standards (“DAS”) to review apprentice applications. Board staff continues to work remotely in light of ongoing restrictions from COVID-19.

Application Review:

At 10:10 a.m., the Board was scheduled to meet with one applicant for licensure and reviewed the application and additional documentation. Below is a list of the candidate for review and the motion and roll call vote for each:

Dominick Glennon – **After review of Mr. Glennon’s application, Mr. Peters moved to approve him for licensure. Mr. Fogg seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Kurlowecz: “Yes”, Mr. Fogg: “Yes”, Mr. Bregman: “Yes”, Mr. Peters: “Yes.”**

Discussion:

- **Meeting with Division of apprentice Standards – Update**
On December 15, 2021, Mr. Fogg and Board Counsel met with representatives of the Division of Apprentice Standards (“DAS”) to discuss various topics related to licensure, including apprentice training and recruitment, advertisement of the apprentice training program, and required classroom hours for apprentice opticians. In addition, they discussed the shift from 6000 to 4200 hours of required apprentice training hours and the implementation of ePLACE for sponsors to register apprentice opticians via electronic means.
- **Consumer Fact Sheet Revisions** – Tabled. The Executive Director will present a revised Fact sheet based on the contributions by Board members for further review at the subsequent Board meeting.
- **Corporate Updates – G. Peters** – Mr. Peters reported that the Board should consider meeting with corporate and retail sponsors to discuss the need for licensure of opticians in Massachusetts and Board rules and regulations. The Board discussed the need to explain the role of managers in optical goods stores. Board Counsel advised that managers must be licensed opticians in order to supervise a dispensing optician’s performance of dispensing optician services. Board Counsel will provide an update on this topic at a subsequent meeting.
- **NCLE Practical Exam Update** – Board Counsel presented redline version of proposed changes to CMR 235 2.00 to reflect the inclusion of the NCLE practical exam as a requirement for licensure. After discussion, the Board members offered to review and provide revisions to Board Counsel. Board Counsel and director will contact Jim Morris, the ABO/NCLE representative, and report back to the Board. No vote was taken.
- **Record Retention** – The Board discussed the need for improved keeping of service records for consumers at optical goods stores, including eyeglass and contact lens prescriptions, per 235 CMR 2.00. The Board discussed the possibility of creating a policy to enforce appropriate record-keeping. No vote was taken.

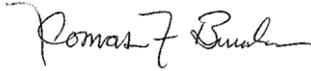
Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance meeting:

- Blair Wong noted that the Opticians Association of Massachusetts (“OAM”) regularly offers courses on the Board’s regulations. The Board instructed Counsel to work with Mr. Peters to present a course at the November 2022 meeting.

Adjournment:

- **At 11:09 a.m., Ms. Kurlowecz moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Peters seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Kurlowecz: “Yes”, Mr. Fogg: “Yes”, Mr. Bregman: “Yes”, Mr. Peters: “Yes.”**

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas F. Burke
Executive Director

Documents used in the open meeting:

- Agenda for DO Board Meeting of January 5, 2021
- Draft Minutes of the December 8, 2021 meeting
- Report on Approved Licensed Opticians
- Applications for D. Glennon (protected personal data redacted)
- Consumer Fact Sheet
- Redline version of proposed changes to 235 CMR 2.00 (and accompanying examination statute).