

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NATUROPATHY
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
VIA WebEx
1:00 PM

GENERAL SESSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
(Open Session)

Board Members Present: Paul Herscu, ND, MPH, Naturopathic Doctor 1, Chair
Mattia Migliore, PhD, RPH, Clinical Pharmacologist, Secretary
Christina Bain, Public Member

Board Members Not Present: Anne Frances Hardy, ND, LAC, Naturopathic Doctor 2, Vice-Chair
Darshan Mehta, MD Physician 1

Staff Present: Steven Joubert, Executive Director, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Heather Engman, Chief Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH
Kayla Mikalauski, Management Analyst, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Tracy Tam, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Carol Larkin, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL

I. Call to Order

At 1:08 PM, Dr. Paul Herscu, Board Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order. Dr. Herscu reminded Board members the meeting was being recorded and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum.

Roll call as follows: Paul Herscu: present: Dr. Mattia Migliore: present: Christina Bain: present.

Absent: Anne Francis Hardy, Darshan Mehta

II. Approval of Agenda

The Board reviewed the February 27, 2024, Regular Session Agenda

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Paul Herscu asked Mr. Joubert to share his copy of the agenda with the Board. Dr. Herscu asked if there were any conflicts of interest with the agenda as written. No conflicts of interest were noted.

ACTION:

Dr. Paul Herscu made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Dr. Mattia Migliore. The vote was carried unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Paul Herscu yes; Mattia Migliore: yes, Christina Bain: yes.

Opposed: none; Abstained: none, Recused: none

Absent: Anne Francis Hardy, Darshan Mehta

Document: February 27, 2024, Regular Session Agenda

III.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the November 28, 2023, Regular Session Minutes

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Paul Herscu stated he was not present at the previous meeting.

ACTION:

Dr. Mattia Migliore made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Christina Bain. The vote was carried out by roll call vote as follows: Paul Herscu: abstain; Mattia Migliore: yes; Christina Bain: yes.

Opposed: none, Recused: none

Absent: Anne Francis Hardy, Darshan Mehta

Document: November 28, 2023, Regular Session Minutes

IV.

273 CMR 4.02-Sub-Regulatory Guidance Memo

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Joubert stated that the Commissioner's Office approved the sub-regulatory guidance memo for Naturopathy and the document will be uploaded to the Board's website.

Document: 273 CMR 4.02-Sub-Regulatory Guidance Memo

V.

Flex Session

Mr. Joubert asked if the Board would like to keep the next meeting on March 26, 2024, or cancel and convene in May instead. Dr. Paul Herscu asked if the Board had received any requests for clarification regarding Naturopathy. Mr. Joubert stated that nothing has been received lately and when an item does come in it would be placed on the agenda. Ms. Christina Bain asked if there is an increase in people actively looking at our website asking questions about registration or general inquiries from the public. Mr. Joubert answered that the general public are not calling us to find out what is going on with Naturopathy. Mr. Joubert stated we are contacted by people interested in licensure, which is processed by our staff. Ms. Heather Engman stated that the public would generally only contact us if there was a complaint and we do not have any right now. Ms. Heather Engman also stated that most of the inquiries received are about the licensing process. Dr. Paul Herscu stated that he receives questions about the Naturopathic profession that he can't legally answer or give opinions on. Dr. Paul Herscu stated he wants to contact the state association and ask them to give us all their questions, so we can resolve them in the March meeting. Mr. Joubert stated these

questions should be forwarded to his email address and he will then compile the questions and add them to the agenda. Mr. Joubert stated we need a month in advance to do the research to have a meaningful meeting on how the regulations and restrictions would apply. Dr. Paul Herscu stated that there is a Naturopathy conference in April. Ms. Heather Engman asked Dr. Paul Herscu to please provide us with a list of topics he would like to discuss at the March meeting. Ms. Heather Engman stated that there are some questions that the Board can answer and provide guidance on. Ms. Heather Engman also stated there are other legal or policy questions, where it would be inappropriate for the Board to provide advice on and would be more appropriate for them to seek advice from their own counsel. Dr. Paul Herscu stated they are scope of practice questions, and he would like to keep the March meeting to discuss this.

All Board members present stated they will be able to attend the March meeting.

VI.

Adjournment

There being no other business before the board, Dr. Mattia Migliore motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Christina Bain. The vote was carried unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Paul Herscu: yes; Mattia Migliore: yes; Christina Bain: yes. Opposed: none; Abstained: none; Recused: none. Absent: Dashan Mehta, Anne Frances Hardy

Let the records show the meeting was adjourned at 1:27 PM.

The next meeting of the Board of Registration in Naturopathy is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, at 1:00 PM via WebEx

Respectfully submitted by:
The Board of Registration in Naturopathy