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BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Public Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2024

Board Members Present: Robert Carey, Jr., Ph.D., Chair
Vicky Anderson, Psy.D., Vice Chair
William Hudgins, Ph.D., Secretary (arrived at 9:03 a.m., left the meeting at 10:23 a.m., returned to the meeting at 10:39 a.m.)
Jeffrey Brown, Psy.D.
Jessica Edwards George, Ph.D. (left the meeting at 11:12 a.m.)
Michael O'Halloran

Staff Present: Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Judith Bromley, Board Counsel
Lauren McShane, Investigator Supervisor

All Board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

At 9:02 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Dr. Carey.

Board Business

- **Roll Call for Attendance:** Mr. Bialas called the roll of Board members. Robert Carey, Vicky Anderson, Jeffrey Brown, Jessica Edwards George, and Michael O'Halloran were in attendance.

Dr. Hudgins arrived at 9:03 a.m.

- **Public Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. O'Halloran, seconded by Dr. Edwards George, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Executive Session Minutes of March 8, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Brown, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 8, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Monitoring Interview

- **Mitchell Gurk, 2021-000548-IT-ENF, Submission of Proposed Replacement Supervisor**
 - **Interview of Mitchell Gurk and Proposed Supervisor Maureen Lavallee:** Dr. Gurk appeared with Dr. Lavallee to discuss Dr. Gurk's request for Dr. Lavallee to serve as his new supervisor and replace his current supervisor. Dr. Gurk explained that his current supervisor is unable to serve as his supervisor. He did not notify the Board of this because he was waiting to see whether his current supervisor would be able to serve. Dr. Gurk "cold called" Dr. Lavallee to ask whether she would be willing to serve as his supervisor, and she agreed. They have no prior relationship.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Edwards George, to approve Dr. Lavallee as Dr. Gurk's supervisor. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Application Review – Education and Experience

- **Roderick Hafer:** Dr. Hafer appeared to discuss his application, specifically his education and experience. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Brown, to approve Dr. Hafer's education and to approve his experience subject to confirmation from the National Register of Health Service Psychologists that Dr. Hafer was listed on the National Register. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Application Review – Education

- **Larry Walker:** The Board reviewed Dr. Walker's education. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Dr. Walker that he must apply for licensure before the Board will review his education, and he should provide a statement with his application aligning his coursework with the content areas listed in 251 CMR 3.03(2)(i).

Discussion

- **Update on PSYPACT Legislation:** Mr. Bialas reported on the status of bills currently in the state legislature to implement the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact in Massachusetts.

Monitoring

- **Lisa Cohen, 2019-001356-IT-ENF, 3rd Quarterly Monitoring Report:** The Board reviewed Dr. Cohen's report. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Edwards George, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Mr. Bialas asked the Board whether any members would like to attend an open session at the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards Mid-Year Meeting on April 25, 2024.

Executive Session (closed under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B – adhering to the public records law and to preserve the confidentiality of medical record information)

At 10:23 a.m., a motion was made by Dr. Hudgins, seconded by Mr. O'Halloran, to (1) exit the public meeting; (2) enter into executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B – adhering to the public records law and to preserve the confidentiality of medical record information, to discuss and evaluate a monitoring report and EPPP accommodation requests involving the review of medical records and information of patients; then (3) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to review cases; and (4) at the conclusion of the investigative conference, not return to the public meeting and adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board entered executive session at 10:23 a.m.

See separate executive session minutes.

Dr. Hudgins left the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Dr. Hudgins returned to the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Investigative Conference (closed to conduct investigatory conferences, pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65C)

The Board entered investigative conference at 10:52 a.m.

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following actions:

Cases

FPSY-2023-0002 (HR):

Refer to office of
investigations

Dr. Edwards George left the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

PSY-2023-0010 (GF):

Refer to board counsel and
office of investigations;
review case at next meeting

PSY-2023-0016 (SR):

Dismiss; open complaint for
continuing education
violation

INV8018 (MS):

Dismiss; open complaint for
continuing education
violation

Adjournment

At 11:59 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. O'Halloran, seconded by Dr. Hudgins, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on May 10, 2024.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting

- Agenda of April 12, 2024 Meeting
- Public Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2024
- Executive Session Minutes of March 8, 2024
- Mitchell Gurk, 2021-000548-IT-ENF, Submission of Proposed Replacement Supervisor
- Documents from Application of Roderick Hafer
- Education Documentation from Larry Walker
- Lisa Cohen, 2019-001356-IT-ENF, 3rd Quarterly Monitoring Report