The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**Public Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2024**

Board Members Present: Robert Carey, Jr., Ph.D., Chair

Vicky Anderson, Psy.D., Vice Chair

William Hudgins, Ph.D., Secretary

Jeffrey Brown, Psy.D.

Jessica Edwards George, Ph.D. (arrived at 9:11 a.m.)

Antonia Seligowski, Ph.D.

Staff Present: Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Judith Bromley, Board Counsel

Lauren McShane, Investigator Supervisor

Doris Lugo, Investigator

Pamely Mota, Investigative Intern

All Board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

At 9:03 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, William Hudgins, Jeffrey Brown, and Antonia Seligowski were in attendance.
* **Public Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Hudgins, seconded by Dr. Brown, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Dr. Seligowski abstaining.
* **Executive Session Minutes of April 12, 2024:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Hudgins, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 12, 2024. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, with Dr. Seligowski abstaining.

Dr. Edwards George arrived at 9:11 a.m.

**Application Reviews – Education and Experience**

* **Irena Tsapelas:** The Board reviewed Dr. Tsapelas’s application, specifically her submission of coursework to satisfy the Racial and Ethnic Bases of Behavior and Professional and Scientific Ethics course requirements in the regulations. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Dr. Tsapelas that the Board will not accept her submissions to satisfy those course requirements.
* **Laurie Cestnick:** The Board reviewed Dr. Cestnick’s application. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to ask Dr. Cestnick to create a statement of her coursework to match the coursework required in the regulations and to either ask her supervisors to complete new experience forms or, if the supervisors are unavailable, to complete the forms herself.
* **Mayron Piccolo:** The Board reviewed Dr. Piccolo’s proposed course to satisfy the Racial and Ethnic Bases of Behavior course requirement and documentation of experience for a non-Health Service Provider license. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Dr. Piccolo that the Board will accept his proposed course and experience for a non-Health Service Provider license.

**Application Review – Experience**

* **Bonnie Barlow:** The Board reviewed Dr. Barlow’s application, specifically documentation of her experience hours. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to inform Dr. Barlow that she must complete an additional 279 qualifying post-doctoral experience hours for the Board to accept her experience for licensure because she did not receive sufficient weekly supervision to apply hours from her practicum for licensure.

**Discussion**

* **Monitoring Instructions:** The Board reviewed draft instructions for proposed monitors. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to revise the draft and place the instructions on the next meeting agenda.

**Correspondence**

* **4.22.24 Letter from A. Barnes of Massachusetts Psychological Association (MPA) re: Examination in the Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP) Part 2:** The Board reviewed a letter from Dr. Barnes containing the MPA’s concerns about the new EPPP Part 2. Dr. Barnes and Susan Wagner, Executive Director of MPA, appeared to discuss the letter.

After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite representatives from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards to a meeting to discuss the EPPP Part 2.

**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 10:51 a.m., a motion was made by Dr. Brown, seconded by Dr. Seligowski, 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 an EPPP accommodation request 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 10:51 a.m.

See separate executive session minutes.

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

The Board entered investigative conference at 11:06 a.m.

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

**Cases**

PSY-2023-0010 (GF): Refer to office of prosecutions

FPSY-2023-0002 (HR): Refer to board counsel and office of investigations

PSY-2023-0009 (RM): Invite respondent to a meeting for an interview

INV7465 (PR): Refer to office of investigations

INV8582 (IM): Open formal complaint; refer to office of investigations

INV8862 (MS): Dismiss

FINV6842 (JA): Dismiss with advisory letter

**Adjournment**

At 12:24 p.m., a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Seligowski, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on June 14, 2024.

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Brian Bialas, Executive Director

**List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting**

* Agenda of May 10, 2024 Meeting
* Public Meeting Minutes of April 12, 2024
* Executive Session Minutes of April 12, 2024
* Documents from Application of Irena Tsapelas
* Documents from Application of Laurie Cestnick
* Documents from Application of Mayron Piccolo
* Documents from Application of Bonnie Barlow
* Draft Monitoring Instructions
* 4.22.24 Letter from A. Barnes of Massachusetts Psychological Association (MPA) re: Examination in the Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP) Part 2