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SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists
1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

EDWARD A. PALLESCHI
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Board Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2020

Conference Call

10:00 AM

Members Present:

Lisa Brown, Chair
Irene Sedlacko, Vice-Chair
Pranita Amarasinghe
Heather Hanley
Erin Reese

Members Absent:

Dominica Nichols
Catherine Drennan

Staff Present:

Richard Lawless, Executive Director
Deborah Cassano, Associate Executive Director
Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 10:52 a.m. Pursuant to Governor Charles D. Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, dated March 12, 2020, all board members and staff appeared telephonically or by videoconference.

Approval of the Public Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2020

The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2020. A motion was made Ms. Hanley, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko to approve the minutes as amended.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Abstain), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Abstain)

The Motion passed.



Approval of the Executive Session Minutes from March 13, 2020

The Board reviewed the Executive Sessions Minutes from March 13, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Reese, seconded by Ms. Hanley to approve the minutes as drafted.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Abstain), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Lawless introduced the new Board Counsel Kristina Gasson.

Board Counsel Report

Attorney Gasson introduced herself to the Board and noted she looked forward to working on the review of the regulations.

December Meeting Date

Due to a conflict with other agency Board schedules, the Board discussed moving the date of the December meeting. Ms. Hanley motioned to change the December meeting date to December 4, 2020 with a 9 a.m. start time, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Yes), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed 5-0.

Reinstatements

Ms. Hanley motioned to reorder agenda to consider all reinstatements presented to the Board, seconded by Ms. Reese.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Yes), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed 5-0.

The Board reviewed the following applications for reinstatement:

1. **Jennifer Lundy**

Board requested additional information including an official transcript, course descriptions and instructor's credentials to be submitted for further review before a decision can be made on this reinstatement. Ms. Reese moved to delegate review of additional information to Board Chair and Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Hanley.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Abstain), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed.

2. Kathleen Meehan

Ms. Hanley moved to delegate review of additional information to Board Chair and Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Yes), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed 5-0.

3. Allison Bowers

The Board is requesting additional information as only 37 of the credits submitted can be accepted. Ms. Hanley motioned to delegate review of additional information to Board Chair and Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Yes), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed 5-0.

Expiration of Executive Order on License Renewals

The Board discussed COVID order #41 putting a sunset date on previous Executive Order. Licensees who expired between March 10 and July 10th have until October 1st to renew without any penalties being incurred. No official action was taken.

The Board discussed the potential need for a telehealth policy. No action was taken.

Discussion:

Email from J. Fodor

The Board discussed an email received regarding Dietitians/Nutritionists ordering labs. The Board gave direction to staff to respond that Board regulations do not prohibit this procedure, but that private insurers may not provide reimbursement for this service.

Regulation Review:

The Board postponed discussion of regulation review until the December meeting.

Other Topics From the Floor

No additional topics were discussed.

Public Comment:

Jule O'Donovan from the Massachusetts Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics reported on telehealth issues within the profession and inquired about reciprocal licenses without being accredited by CDR.

Executive Session Executive Session CLOSED per M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), Individual Character Rather Than Competence and Public Meeting Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Hanley, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe to adjourn the public meeting at **11:40 a.m.**, and to enter into **Executive Session** for the purposes of discussing character rather than competence, and to not resume the public meeting.

The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Dr. Brown (Yes), Ms. Sedlacko (Yes), Ms. Amarasinghe (Yes), Ms. Hanley (Yes), Ms. Reese (Yes)

The Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting:

Agenda

Draft Minutes of the June 12, 2020 Public meeting

Draft Minutes of March 13, 2020 Executive Session

Continuing Education Documentation for Jennifer Lundy, Kathleen Meehan, and Allison Bowers

Email dated 8.19.20 from J. Fodor

The above minutes were approved at the open meeting held on December 4, 2020.



Richard Lawless
Executive Director