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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists
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Boston, Massachusetts 02118

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

Board Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2020

1000 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02118

Room 1C

10:00 AM

Members Present:

Lisa Brown, Chair

Irene Sedlacko, Vice-Chair

Pranita Amarasinghe

Heather Hanley

Erin Reese

Members Absent:

Catherine Drennan

Dominica Nichols

Staff Present:

Richard Lawless, Executive Director

Deborah Cassano, Associate Executive Director

Bruce Hopper, DPL Deputy General Counsel of Boards, Hearings, and Public Records

The meeting was called to order at 10:46 a.m.

Approval of the Public Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2019

The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2019. A motion was made Ms. Hanley, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko to approve the minutes as drafted. Motion passed, with Ms. Amarasinghe abstaining.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Lawless introduced the Board's new Associate Executive Director, Deborah Cassano. He also spoke about the recent COVID-19 memorandum distributed to all Board members and informed the Board of DPL's new Commissioner, Layla D'Emilia.

Board Counsel Report



Attorney Hopper spoke about recent changes to DPL's personnel and addressed the Governor's recent Executive Order suspending certain provisions of the Commonwealth's Open Meeting Law.

Review of Applicants for Licensure

The Board prepared to review applications for licensure.

Ms. Reese moved to suspend the open meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing individual character rather than competence, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko.

Voted unanimously by roll call vote. Members in favor: Dr. Brown, Ms. Sedlacko, Ms. Amarasinghe, Ms. Handley, and Ms. Reese.

See separate minutes.

Open session resumed at 11:10 a.m.

Reinstatements

The Board reviewed the following applications for reinstatement:

1. Eileen Pierro
Ms. Reese moved to delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to consider further information reinstate the applicant if appropriate, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
2. Sandra Berke
Ms. Sedlacko moved to delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to consider further information reinstate the applicant if appropriate, seconded by Ms. Reese. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
3. Susan Goodine
Ms. Sedlacko moved to reinstate the applicant, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
4. Debra Wein
Ms. Hanley moved to delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to consider further information reinstate the applicant if appropriate, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
5. Heather Stone
Ms. Hanley moved to reinstate the applicant, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
6. Heather Ashcraft
Ms. Hanley moved to reinstate the applicant, seconded by Ms. Reese. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
7. Melanie Connelly

Ms. Hanley moved to reinstate the applicant, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Application Evaluations

The Board reviewed the following applications for licensure:

1. Andrea Wolfgang
Ms. Sedlacko, noting that the candidate's completion of the CNS exam is equivalent to an RD credential in the Board's requirements of education and work experience, moved to approve the application for licensure, seconded by Ms. Hanley. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
2. Sylvia Alakuskeva
Ms. Hanley moved to approve the application for licensure, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
3. Britt Reuter
Ms. Hanley moved to approve the applicant's education and work experience, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
4. Sharmaine Edwards
Ms. Amarasinghe moved to approve the applicant's education and to allow them to take the exam, seconded by Ms. Hanley. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
5. Abdelkarim Madhi
Ms. Hanley moved to approve the applicant to take the exam, seconded by Ms. Amarasinghe. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
6. David Selawsky
Ms. Reese moved to approve the applicant to take the exam, seconded by Ms. Sedlacko. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Discussion:

The Board discussed reviewing regulations at a future meeting, specifically language regarding continuing education waivers and the license reinstatement process.

Other Topics From the Floor

No additional topics were discussed.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Sedlacko, seconded by Ms. Reese, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:38pm.

Documents Used During the Meeting:

Agenda

Draft Minutes of September 13, 2019 Open Meeting
Continuing Education Documentation for Eileen Pierro, Sandra Berke, Susan Goodine, Debra
Wein, Heather Stone, and Heather Ashcraft
Application documentation for Andrea Wolfgang, Sylvia Alakuskeva, Britt Reuter, Sharmaine
Edwards, Abdelkarim Madhi, and David Selawsky

The above Minutes were approved at the
open meeting held on June 12, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Lawless', written in a cursive style.

Richard Lawless
Executive Director