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MIKE KENNEALY
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists
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LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Board Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2020
Conference Call
10:00 AM

Members Present:

Lisa Brown, Chair
Irene Sedlacko, Vice-Chair
Pranita Amarasinghe
Catherine Drennan
Heather Hanley
Dominica Nichols

Members Absent:

Erin Reese

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 10:02 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 March 13, 2020

The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2020. A motion was made Ms. Amarasinghe, seconded by Ms. Hanley to approve the minutes as drafted. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Report



Mr. Lawless reviewed protocol for the conference call meeting and said that all votes will be conducted by roll call.

Board Counsel Report

Attorney Hopper spoke about the Governor's Executive Order allowing Board meetings to be conducted virtually and the legal challenges of conducting meetings and agency operations remotely.

Ms. Drennan arrived at or around 10:15 a.m.

Reinstatements

The Board reviewed the following applications for reinstatement:

1. Eileen Pierro
Dr. Brown moved reinstate the applicant, seconded by Ms. Hanley. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.
2. Jan Walker
Ms. Hanley moved reinstate the applicant, seconded by Dr. Nichols. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Application Evaluations

The Board reviewed the following applications for licensure:

1. Andrea Dennis
Ms. Sedlacko moved to approve the applicant's education and work experience and to allow them to take the exam, seconded by Ms. Hanley. Following a unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Discussion:

COVID-19 Topics:

The Board discussed several topics related to COVID-19 and standard Board operations, including Continuing Education, Telehealth, and online applications. No official action was taken.

Regulation Review:

The Board discussed the process for regulation review. Board members will plan to bring any recommended changes to the September Board meeting, and the Board will plan to discuss regulation changes at that meeting.

Other Topics From the Floor

No additional topics were discussed.

Public Comment:

Jule from the Massachusetts Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics reported that telehealth is growing in popularity in the profession.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Amarasinghe, seconded by Dr. Nichols, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting:

Agenda

Draft Minutes of March 13, 2020 Open Meeting

Continuing Education Documentation for Eileen Pierro and Jan Walker

Application documentation for Andrea Dennis

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on September 10, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Lawless', written over a horizontal line.

Richard Lawless
Executive Director