

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF GENETIC COUNSELORS
BOARD MEETING

July 7, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Via WebEx

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Allison Cirino, Genetic Counselor
Diane Ahern, Genetic Counselor
Shelley McCormick, Genetic Counselor
Jillian Fleming, Public Member
Stephanie Coury, Genetic Counselor

Board Members
not present: None.

Staff Present: Steven Joubert, Executive Director, Multi-Boards. BHPL
Mary Strachan, Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, BHPL
Kayla Mikalauski, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL

Staff not Present: Patricia Young, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL

I. Call to Order | Determination of Quorum

Board Chair, Allison Cirino called the meeting of the Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors to order at 9:41AM and let everyone know that the meeting was being recorded. A quorum of the Board was established with members present via WebEx as follows: Allison Cirino: present; Diane Ahern: present; Jillian Fleming: present; Shelley McCormick: present; Stephanie Coury: present.

II. Approval of Agenda

DISCUSSION:
None.

ACTION:
Motion to approve the July 7, 2022 Agenda by Ms. Cirino, seconded by Ms. McCormick and passed unanimously by Board members present via Webex as follows: Allison Cirino: Approve; Diane Ahern: Approve; Jillian Fleming: Approve; Shelley McCormick: Approve; Stephanie Coury: Approve

Document: General Session Board Meeting Agenda – July 7, 2022

III. Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Cirino stated that they were moving on to approving the minutes from the April 7, 2022 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Stephanie Coury stated she would be abstaining because she did not have a chance to review the April 7th minutes.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the April 7, 2022 Minutes by Ms. Cirino, seconded by Ms. Ahern and passed unanimously by Board members present via Webex as follows: Allison Cirino: Approve; Diane Ahern: Approve; Jillian Fleming: Approve; Shelley McCormick: Approve; Stephanie Coury: Abstained.

Document: April 7, 2022 General Session Minutes

IV. Investigations:

None.

V. Flex Session:

A. Announcements:

None.

B. Topics for next agenda:

Mr. Joubert stated that they will review Genetic Counselor fees next session. Mr. Joubert stated the bureau is looking to reduce the reactivation fees to some degree and should have more on the subject next board meeting. Therefore, he will put it on next month's agenda for further discussion. Ms. McCormick asked if it is in the boards power to change the fees? Mr. Joubert stated that the fees are set by the Secretary of Administration and Finance. Ms. Strachan added that the law that sets up the boards, for most boards they don't say how much a board can decide the amount of money. { listen to tape}... Ms. Strachan stated that the Administration and Finance set the reactivation fees and that the bureau is looking to make the reactivation fees consistent across all boards.

The bureau is looking to make the same for legal bases, to make sure the boards are following each practice, but this is something that is not completed yet. {Listen to tape}...Ms. McCormick stated that she is concerned that most Genetic Counselors will not return to Massachusetts to practice since it is cost prohibitive. Ms. Strachan agreed and thought it is not fair and stated that is why the bureau is looking into it. Ms. McCormick asked the how long this will take? Ms. McCormick believes that Massachusetts Genetic Counselors are anxiously waiting for a resolution of the reactivation fees as in order they can afford a manageable fee. Ms. Strachan deferred that question to Mr. Joubert. Mr. Joubert stated that there is a strong movement to modify the reactivation fees. Mr. Joubert stated that this should happen in the next few weeks, and there is also operational

movement and that the Bureau Director is working with the Chief Board Counsel to make a solid decision on this matter. Ms. Strachan then stated that this process is not like other regulatory that require public review, which makes the process extremely lengthy and takes time, and that this process is not required to go through a lengthy deliberation for a decision to be made. Ms. Strachan stated that this decision should be made in the next month or two.

Ms. Ahern stated that she had a question for Ms. Strachan stated she is not sure whether she has a conflict of interest or not for the Executive Session- Stated that they worked for the same company but different teams. Ms. Strachan stated she would answer the question in the Executive Session

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 9:55AM. by Ms. Cirino, seconded by Ms. McCormick and passed unanimously by Board members present via Webex as follows: Allison Cirino: Approve; Diane Ahern: Approve; Jillian Fleming: Approve; Shelley McCormick: Approve; Stephanie Coury: Approve

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors is scheduled on **October 6, 2022** in Boston, MA.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors