

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Occupational Licensure Board of Registration of Cosmetology and Barbering

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 OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

MINUTES OF THE <u>February 10th, 2022</u> PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Call

PRESENT: Susan Viens (Chair), Heather Cohen, Nicole Corliss, Marian Saluto, Iris Stowe

and Cate Tool.

Joy Talbot (Vice Chair), Erinn Pearson Breedy, and Jésus Nuñez were absent.

STAFF: Richard Lawless, Executive Director

Charles Kilb, Board Counsel Seth Henderson, Board Counsel

The Meeting was called to order at **9:31 a.m.** by Ms. Viens. All board members and staff appeared telephonically or by videoconference.

Housekeeping and Conference Call Protocol:

Ms. Viens reviewed conference call protocol with meeting attendees.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Lawless spoke about significant decisions the Board would need to make at today's meeting, and also reminded attendees that the Board plans to begin discussing eyelash extensions at its next meeting on March 10.

Board Counsel Report:

Atty. Kilb confirmed that legislation was passed that permitted virtual Board meetings to continue through July 15, 2022. He also introduced the Board's new counsel, Seth Henderson.

Minutes of the January 13th, 2022 Public Meeting

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Saluto, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to approve the public minutes of the January 13th, 2022 meeting as drafted.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Discussion

Pearson Vue Examinations and Practical Examination

The Board continued its discussion from the previous month on whether to keep the practical examination, after confirmation from its current exam vendor Pearson Vue that they would be phasing out support for the exam this year. The Board discussed the viability and effectiveness of the current practical exam, and whether a written-practical exam could reasonably be substituted. The Board also discussed the limited number of other vendors who may be able to provide a physical practical exam.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Corliss, to phase out the physical practical examination and to include the provision for a written practical examination in the Board's Request for Response (RFR) for a new exam vendor contract.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (No), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 5-1.

Proposed New Aesthetics School – Diamond Aesthetics Academy

The Board reviewed edited documentation from Diamond Aesthetics Academy reflecting recommended changes from the January meeting.

After review, a MOTION was made by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Corliss, to delegate authority to Ms. Tool and Board staff to conduct a final review of the documentation, and once all documentation has been received and approved, for Board staff to conduct the final inspection, process the school application, and approve the school.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Catherine Hinds Company – New Advanced School Location

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Caitlin Donofrio from the Catherine Hinds Company was in attendance to discuss a new location for its premises for Advanced Seminars.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to delegate authority to Board staff to review finalized versions of documentation, incorporating the Board's recommended changes, and once all documentation has been received and approved, for Board staff to conduct the final inspection, process the school application, and approve the school.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Examination Appeals

The Board discussed its current examination appeal process.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to retain the Board's current requirements for examination appeals and to not permit any exceptions.

After additional discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Tool, to rescind the previous motion, to eliminate the examination appeal process, and to only permit examination appeals regarding a material issue with the content of the examination, and to explore additional tools and resources for English as a Second Language candidates.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Appeal of Expired School Hours

The Board discussed its current process of permitting students to appeal unfinished school program hours that have been expired for more than five years.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to rescind Board's Policy on the Expiration of Incomplete Education, and to remit decisions on expired educations to schools.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Reciprocity

The Board continued its discussion on reciprocity, focusing on situations where a licensee in another state completed a non-school training program that would be considered the equivalent of the Board's school hour requirement in that state. The Board also discussed situations where a licensee is licensed in a state without equivalent requirements to Massachusetts.

Ms. Saluto left the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen, table this discussion until the March meeting, and to include Electrology reciprocity in next month's discussion, and also to table the review of Electrology regulations until the March meeting.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment

Janice Dorian from Mansfield Beauty Schools suggested the Board may want to consider lowering its examination standards to assist with candidates who struggle with English. She said she opposes a written practical examination, citing that it will create a new barrier for English as a Second Language candidates, and may deter people from entering the profession and attending school.

Eurayshia Williams also said that she opposed the written practical examination, believing that it would affect the confidence of students when taking their exams. She also asked the Board why aesthetics procedures were restricted from going into or beyond the dermis layer of the skin. Ms. Tool answered that the Board's statute restricts the practice of aesthetics from being too invasive.

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

A MOTION was made by Ms. Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to adjourn the public meeting at 12:13 p.m., and to enter into Executive Session, closed per M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), for the purposes of discussing character rather than competence; and then to move into Closed Investigative Conference to consider open cases, conduct investigative conferences, and consider settlement offers [closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65C], and the Open Meeting would not resume.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

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The Motion passed 5-0.

<u>Cases, Investigative Conferences, Settlement Offers [Closed Session Pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65C]:</u>

During the closed Investigative Conference, the Board voted to take the following actions:

Application Review

2021-160-HD-F-APP Guidance given to Staff

Settlement Offers

2020-205939-FI-ENF Guidance given to prosecutor

Review of Cases

2021-001068-IT-ENF	Referred to Prosecutions
2021-001104-IT-ENF	Referred to Prosecutions
2021-001146-IT-ENF	Referred to Prosecutions
2022-000004-IT-ENF	Referred to Prosecutions
2022-000003-IT-ENF	Referred to Prosecutions
2022-000053-IT-ENF	Dismissed

Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Ms Tool, seconded by Ms. Cohen to adjourn.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Viens (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Stowe (Yes), and Ms. Tool (Yes).

The Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on March 10, 2022.

Richard Lawless, Executive Director

Documents Used During the Meeting:

Minutes of February 10, 2022, Board of Cosmetology and Barbering

Agenda
Draft Minutes of January 13, 2022 Open Meeting
Documentation from Diamond Aesthetics Academy
Documentation from Catherine Hinds Company
Examination Appeal Form
Board Policy on Expiration of Incomplete Education
Draft Policy on Reciprocity