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REGULATION

SARAH R. WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

MINUTES OF THE January 30, 2024
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

TIME: 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Call / Virtual Meeting

PRESENT: Joy Talbot (Chair), Erinn Breedy, Heather Cohen, Nicole Corliss, Cassia Gilroy, Marian Saluto

ABSENT: Cate Tool (Vice-Chair), Iris Stowe

STAFF: Richard Lawless, Executive Director
Jamie Dalton, Board Counsel

The Meeting was called to order at **12:04 p.m.** by the Chair. All board members and staff appeared telephonically or by videoconference.

The Chair informed Board members and attendees that the public meeting was being recorded.

Anthony Clemente from the Massachusetts Association of Cosmetology Schools informed the Chair that he would be recording the meeting.

Housekeeping and Conference Call Protocol:

The Chair reviewed conference call and open meeting protocol with meeting attendees.

Discussion

Status of Elizabeth Grady School of Esthetics

The Board reviewed information submitted by Elizabeth Grady School of Esthetics CEO Kathy DeNicola regarding updates to the school's eviction court case, progress on securing a new premises, and progress of the class permitted to complete their hours at the Catherine Hinds Institute campus.



Dana Difore, a parent of a student, said that Catherine Hinds Institute can only help students if the Elizabeth Grady School is closed, and that the Board should not delay a decision. Ms. Difore was informed by the Chair of the Open Meeting Law regarding conduct at Board meetings, and also was informed that the Elizabeth Grady School did not need to be officially closed for students to transfer to other schools.

Board members concluded that the limited information provided by Ms. DeNicola in the form of a written update, which had been previously requested by the Board, did not provide reasonable assurances that the school could resume in-person operations soon. Accordingly, Board members determined that in the best interest of students, a decision should not be further delayed, and noted that the school had an opportunity to provide detailed and substantial information to the Board, but was not able to do so.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Breedy, seconded by Ms. Cohen, to deem the Elizabeth Grady School of Esthetics closed, due to not having a physical premises. [See later motion below regarding authorization of continued operations at an alternate location for a specific limited purpose.]

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Breedy (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Gilroy (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. and Ms. Talbot (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

The Board then discussed how to handle the group of students previously approved to finish their curriculum using the Catherine Hinds Institute campus.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Corliss, seconded by Ms. Breedy, to permit the previously approved group of students to continue finishing their program at the Catherine Hinds Institute campus through the first week of February.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Breedy (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Gilroy (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. and Ms. Talbot (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

The Board discussed how to handle students who are transferring a large number of hours to a new school to complete their program.

After discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Saluto, seconded by Ms. Gilroy, to permit Board staff to approve applications for former Elizabeth Grady students who are finishing a minority of their hours at a new school, if the new school is not comfortable approving the applications.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Breedy (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Gilroy (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. and Ms. Talbot (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

Katie, an Elizabeth Grady student, asked about students with only a few hours left. Mr. Lawless confirmed that Board staff would be able to approve applications for students finishing a small number of hours at a new school.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Ms. Breedy, seconded by Ms. Gilroy, to adjourn the meeting at 12:34 p.m.

The Chair called for a Roll call vote:

Ms. Breedy (Yes), Ms. Cohen (Yes), Ms. Corliss (Yes), Ms. Gilroy (Yes), Ms. Saluto (Yes), Ms. and Ms. Talbot (Yes).

The Motion passed 6-0.

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on February 8, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Lawless', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Lawless, Executive Director

Documents Used During the Meeting:

Agenda

Documentation from Kathy DeNicola regarding Eliabeth Grady School of Esthetics

Documentation from Kathy DeNicola regarding NACCAS Inquiry