

Board of Registration of Massage Therapy

APRIL 12, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

A posted public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Massage Therapy (the Board) was held remotely via video and telephone conferencing pursuant to an Executive Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provision of the open meeting law.

Attending: Members: Paul Andrews/Chair, Alexei Levine/Vice Chair, Ellen Walker/Secretary, Sheri Miller-Bedau

Members absent: Kimberlee Schuler (joined briefly at 11:37 am)

Staff: Danielle O'Neil, Executive Director and Sheila York, Board Counsel

MT Public Meeting

Monday, April 12, 2021 10:01AM-1:38PM

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 857-327-9245,,816090950#](#) United States, Boston

Phone Conference ID: 816 090 950#

Meeting Called to Order

- Remote meeting procedures – Paul Andrews noted we had a quorum and confirmed quorum via roll call vote which showed the following members participating via remote means: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine (by phone), Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau; Mr. Andrews called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

Board Meeting Business

- Review and Approve Public Minutes for 3.8.21 – Motion to approve 3.8.21 minutes as presented by Ellen Walker; seconded by Sheri Miller-Bedeau;
 - Paul Andrews held a roll call vote.
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau.
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- Paul Andrews noted that the topic of reviewing the 3.8.21 Executive Session Minutes was not on the public notice of topics to be discussed at the meeting. Paul Andrews tabled review of the March Executive Session minutes until the Board's next meeting.
- Review Potential Hearing Dates – Paul Andrews asked if board members could commit to the eight dates submitted by Danielle O'Neil; then asked if the first two dates (5/3 and 5/24/2021) could be confirmed to determine if we have a quorum; Sheri Miller-Bedeau is

not able to attend 5/3/2021 – Kimberlee Schuler’s status is unknown for the first two meetings; Alexei Levine and Ellen Walker confirmed attendance to both 5/3 and 5/24 hearing dates.

- Sub-committee on Applications
 - 2021-34-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-65-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-19-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-4-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-40-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-49-MT-MT-APP
 - 2021-55-MT-MT-APP
 - Paul Andrews informed the Board that the sub-committee assisted staff in reviewing the above-listed applications. Sheila York clarified that the Board did not need to vote on these applications unless the subcommittee specifically referred an application for Board review. None of the above-applications required board review.
- Review Regulation and Proposed Changes
 - 269 CMR 2
 - 269 CMR 3
 - 269 CMR 5
 - 269 CMR 6
 - Interviewing Proposed Compliance Officers
 - Maintaining List of Employees
 - The Board reviewed an updated working draft of proposed changes, dated 4/8/21, to Board regulations.
 - The Board discussed adding a regulation that specifically addresses when education received at an out-of-state school is acceptable. The Board chose not to require accreditation by COMTA (Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation), but rather to continue its current policy of requiring applicant to demonstrate that the school is licensed/certified/approved by the corresponding entity regulating massage practice in that other state or is licensed by an agency in that other state recognized by the United States Department of Education.
 - The Board discussed edits aimed at clarifying that if massage therapist is providing only remote/out-of-office services, they must hold a solo establishment license or be working under a multiple therapist establishment license. The Board discussed exempting remote-only establishments from certain regulatory requirements.
 - The Board declined to re-introduce an 8 hour limit as a threshold for any establishment licensure requirement. The Board noted that other provisions of the regulations can be used to distinguish between a valid solo establishment and a location that requires a multiple therapist establishment license.
 - Sheila York will edit the working draft of proposed regulation changes to reflect the Board’s discussion and will combine this working draft with the proposed continuing education regulations for review at a future board meeting.

Board Counsel Report

- COVID Remote School Hours Policy – Sheila York put on agenda before it expires as a reminder to the board

Curriculum Review Renewal

- New England School of Therapeutics
- Mr. Levine stated that he had reviewed the proposal and there were no changes from the curriculum previously approved by the Board.
- Motion to approve by Alexei Levine; Ellen Walker seconded
 - Paul Andrews held roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Massage School
- Alexei Levine recused himself and will not participate as a board member in the discussion of this topic. Kimberlee Schuler joined the meeting at 11:37 am to ensure the board had a quorum. Alexei Levine moved to the other side of the virtual “table” to present the Massage School’s application for renewal of the curriculum for its 650 hour and 750 hour programs. The Board discussed the Curriculum Review Renewal request submitted by The Massage School. Mr. Levine noted that the Massage School was not proposing any changes to curriculum previously approved by the Board, it was only seeking renewal of that same approval.
 - Motion to approve by Ellen Walker; Kimberlee Schuler seconded
 - Paul Andrews held roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau, Kimberlee Schuler;
 - Members opposed: None;
 - Members recused: Alexei Levine; Motion passed

Application Review

- 2019-618-MT-MT-APP [Guiling Cote] *Conference With Applicant*
- Applicant appeared before the Board for the scheduled conference to discuss her application for licensure based on education she completed at JK Holy Career Institute in New Jersey. Danielle O’Neil noted that the NCBTMB had denied JK Holy’s approval code. The Board asked the applicant questions about her education and her application materials. The Chair thanked the applicant for participating in the conference. The Chair stated that he would table the Board vote on this matter until further information is received, including information about school’s licensure status in NJ;
- 2020-155-MT-MT-APP [Yuyin Wang] *Conference With Applicant*
- 2020-156-MT-MT-APP [Zuohua Wang] *Conference With Applicant*
- Both 2020-155-MT-MT-APP and 2020-156-MT-MT-App; neither applicant was in attendance; Motion to deem applications incomplete due to failure to attend conference by Ellen Walker; Sheri Miller-Bedeau seconded
 - Paul Andrews held roll call
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

12:09PM Motion to go into Closed Session *Closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C*; So Moved Ellen Walker; seconded Sheri Miller-Bedeau

Investigative Conference Closed Session [*Closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C*]:

- Report of Actions taken in Closed Investigative Session:
 - 2019-001445-IT-ENF [Chunmei Qin] - Dismissed;

- 2020-000133-IT-ENF [Isabella Gitana-Woolf] – Alexei Levine recused. Tabled for lack of quorum.
- 2020-000172-IT-ENF [Christina Hernando] – Dismissed.
- 2020-000339-IT-ENF [Yingo Li] – Gave direction to staff.
- 2020-001043-IT-ENF [Satin Touch Spa] – Referred to prosecutions.
- 2020-001644-IT-ENF [Andrei Popandopoulos] – Referred to prosecutions.
- 2020-001645-IT-ENF [Boualon Vannavong] – Referred to prosecutions
- 2020-001649-IT-ENF [Yana Alekseeva] – Dismiss with advisory.
- 2020-001031-IT-ENF [Body Healing] – Referred to prosecutions
- 2020-001032-IT-ENF [Solange Lopes] - Referred to prosecutions

Adjudicatory Session /Closed session pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, § 18, ¶5(d):

- Report of Action Taken in Closed Adjudicatory Session:
 - 2020-000843-IT-ENF [Changling Chou] – Denied request to re-open case.
- 2020-001310-IT-ENF [Hong Su]
- 2020-001311-IT-ENF [Likun Sui]
- 2020-001245-IT-ENF [Xixiang Tao]
- 2020-001488-IT-ENF [CaiZhen Wang]
- 2020-001188-IT-ENF [Xianyuan Li]
- 2020-001207-IT-ENF [Wei Liu]
- 2020-001254-IT-ENF [Aimin Wang]
- Motion for revocation by default for the above 8 cases (2020-000752 to 2020-001254)
 - Paul Andrews motioned; Sheri Miller-Bedeau seconded
 - Paul Andrews held roll call vote:
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- 2020-000789-IT-ENF [Sheng Zhong] – Deliberated on final decision.

At 1:38PM Motion to move out of Closed Session and Adjourn by Ellen Walker; Sheri Miller-Bedeau seconded,

- Paul Andrews held roll call vote:
- Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedeau
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Adjourn at 1:38PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Walker
Board Secretary

List of Documents used in Public Session:

Draft Minutes of 3/8/21 Public Meeting
Potential Hearing Dates
Working draft of proposed regulation changes, dated 4/8/21,
New England School of Therapeutics
The Massage School
2019-618-MT-MT-APP [Guiling Cote] (redacted)