

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Board of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professions
Public Meeting
May 15, 2020
1000 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02118

Board Members Present:

Bill Ahearn, Chair
Susan Egan, Member
Amy Vercillo, Member
Kristen Woodbury, Member
Jacqueline Gagliardi, Member
Jennifer Paine, Member
Cynthia Belhumeur, Public Member

Board Members Not Present:

Heidi Creighton, Public Member

Staff Members Present:

Brian P. Bialas, Executive Director
Erin Murphy, Associate Executive Director
Lynn Read, Board Counsel
Doris Lugo, Investigator

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.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Public Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2020

The minutes for the public meeting of April 17, 2020 were discussed. A MOTION was made by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Paine, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Travel Reimbursements

Ms. Murphy notified board members that travel reimbursements for the current fiscal year are due by May 31, 2020.

Discussion

- **Applicant Experience Hours During COVID-19 Outbreak – Extend Policy to August 30, 2020:** The Board discussed extending its Emergency Policy on Pre-Master's Degree Experience, which allows certain applicants for an LMHC or LMFT license to make-up internship hours with

additional practicum or post-master's degree experience hours, to include those who graduate by August 30, 2020. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve the change to the policy. The motion passed unanimously.

- **NBCC and NCMHC Examination:** The Board reviewed correspondence regarding the reliability of the NCMHC Examination and took no action.

Monitoring Reports

- **Marilyn Perlman, 2016-000951-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Probation:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Paine, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to approve the creation of a subcommittee of Dr. Ahearn, Ms. Paine, and Ms. Woodbury to interview Ms. Perlman and her supervisor, Dr. Marie Caparso, and make a decision on her petition. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Priscilla Griffin, 20151106MH022-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Woodbury, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Virginia Childs, 2018-000909-IT-ENF, 2nd Quarterly Monitoring Report:** After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Dr. Ahearn described a recent meeting he had with DPL Commissioner Layla D'Emilia which included discussion about the appointment of new board members. The Board reviewed the vacant positions on the Board, and Mr. Bialas offered to gather resumes from interested candidates for consideration by the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions.

The Board then accepted public comments from Deborah Spragg, Joseph Mageary, and Christine Cassidy who all urged the Board to extend its Emergency Policy on Teletherapy for Applicant Experience and Supervision Hours from an end date of June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020 so students can be placed in clinics that will be offering limited or no in-person therapy sessions during the fall semester.

Executive Session (Closed under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B)

At 10:44 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Vercillo, to enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B to review sensitive medical information in NCMHC Examination accommodation requests, without reconvening in open meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Investigative Conference (Closed Session under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C)

At 10:54 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Egan, to exit executive session and enter into a closed investigative conference under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C to review settlement offers and cases. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

During the investigative conference, the board took the following actions:

Settlements:

2019-000864-IT-ENF (LS):	Direction given to prosecutor; dismiss CE violation counts
2019-000500-IT-ENF (TK):	Dismiss with Advisory Letter

Cases:

2019-001339-IT-ENF (WD):	Dismiss
2020-000176-IT-ENF (DH):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
2020-000224-IT-ENF (SS):	Dismiss with Advisory Letter
2020-000256-IT-ENF (JH):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
2020-000372-IT-ENF (HJ):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions
2020-000448-IT-ENF (PS):	Refer to Office of Prosecutions

Adjournment

At 12:28 p.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Woodbury, seconded by Ms. Gagliardi, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The above minutes were approved at the open meeting held on June 19, 2020.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used by the Board at the Open Meeting:

- Agenda for Meeting of May 15, 2020
- Draft Public Minutes of April 17, 2020
- Draft Emergency Policy on Pre-Master's Degree Experience
- 3.11.20 Letter from R. James re: NBCC
- 3.19.20 Letter from R. James re: NBCC
- 3.19.20 Letter from K. Dotson-Blake of NBCC re: Correspondence from R. James
- Marilyn Perlman, 2016-000951-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Probation
- Priscilla Griffin, 20151106MH022-IT-ENF, 6th Quarterly Monitoring Report
- Virginia Childs, 2018-000909-IT-ENF, 2nd Quarterly Monitoring Report