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Board of Registration of Massage Therapy Subcommittee
November 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

A public meeting of a validly-constituted and convened subcommittee of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Massage Therapy (the Subcommittee) was held remotely via video and telephone conferencing pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022, allowing remote participation by Board members and the public. The purpose of the Subcommittee was to review and approve licensure applications.

Attending Subcommittee Members: Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler

Attending Staff: Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director, Richard Holtz, Deputy General Counsel, Amanda Smith, Board Staff

Meeting Called to Order

- Remote meeting procedures- At approximately 1:01 PM, Paul Andrews confirmed quorum, with at least two (2) participating members, via roll call vote, which showed the following members participating via remote means; Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler; Paul Andrews called the meeting to order.

Board Business

- The Subcommittee reviewed the meeting minutes for July 18, 2024. Motion was made to approve minutes as presented; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor; Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Application Review

- 2024-214-MT-MT-APP [Arthur Pacheco]- This applicant attended the National Holistic Institute in California in which he received 500 hours of massage therapy education. Mr. Pacheco also received 150 hours from an aquatic program while attending the Harbin School of Healing Arts. This course appears to be similar to shiatsu in water and would



be an exempted modality by definition per the statute. This leaves a deficiency of 150 hours in Massage Theory & Technique and 48 hours in clinical. However, Mr. Pacheco has current licenses in Florida and Colorado which would satisfy that deficiency, as long as 650 hours has been obtained. Mr. Pacheco stated that he will be completing a certification from the Dalton Institute in December. After discussion, it was recommended that this application be tabled and Mr. Pacheco return to the subcommittee with the appropriate documentation for review.

- 2024-64-MT-MT-APP [Jesse Clements-Dalby] – This applicant attended Avenue Five Institute in Texas in which she received 750 hours of massage therapy education. There is a deficiency of 15 hours in Ethics & Professionalism and 5 hours in the Sciences. Because there is a surplus of 100 hours in Massage Theory & Technique and typically an overlap in content, those deficient hours would be covered. Motion was made to move 15 hours from Massage Theory to cover the Ethics & Professionalism deficiency and to move 5 hours from Massage Theory to cover the Sciences; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison: Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor; Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- 2024-213-MT-MT-APP [Choenyi Dhondup]- Due to insufficient information, it was decided that this application would not be discussed. However, the applicant and a representative from the Bright Education Institute were in attendance; therefore, Mr. Andrews opened up the floor for comments. Mr. Dhondup explained that he attended the Bright Education Institute and passed the MBLEX. He applied to Massachusetts in July and attended a dual track program. He stated that FSMTB invalidated the MBLEX results due to a discrepancy in his education record. Because the requirements are different for Massachusetts and Florida, Bright Education recommended a dual track program that could be easily approved in both states. Mr. Andrews asked the representative to explain why Mr. Dhondup submitted two different transcripts. The representative explained that the intention is to customize programs specifically for each state's requirements. It was pointed out that the submission of two different transcripts is an issue of concern to the Board. The representative reiterated that they work with their students to develop transcripts based on their individual needs with regards to a dual track program. Mr. Andrews ended the discussion and offered them an opportunity to come back when Mr. Dhondup's application is ready for review by the subcommittee.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:03 PM; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison.

- Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
- Members in favor; Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,


Kerry Cassidy
Executive Director



Paul Andrews
Board Chair

List of Documents used in Subcommittee:

MT Subcommittee Agenda 11.20.2024
MT Subcommittee Meeting Minutes 07.18.2024
MT Applications for Review Spreadsheet
Transcripts and Syllabus for Arthur Pacheco
Transcript for Jesse Clements-Dalby