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Board of Registration of Massage Therapy September 11, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Massage Therapy (the Board) 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.

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

Members Absent: Kimberlee Schuler

Staff: Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director, Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel

Meeting Called to Order

- Remote meeting procedures – At approximately, 10:00 AM, Paul Andrews confirmed quorum via roll call vote which showed the following members participating via remote means; Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, Sheri Miller-Bedau; Paul Andrews called the meeting to order.
- Paul Andrews took a moment to recognize the 22nd anniversary of 911.

Board Business

- The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison; Seconded By Ellen Walker
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, and Sheri Miller-Bedau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Board reviewed the Executive Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Alexei Levine; Seconded By Ellen Walker
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, and Sheri Miller-Bedau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed



- The review of the Executive Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2023 was tabled until the October Board meeting.
- The review of the Public Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2023 was tabled until the October Board meeting.
- The discussion for the Board meeting schedule for 2024 has been tabled until the October Board meeting. Pallas Hutchison inquired if the Board will still be participating in remote meetings going forward. Board Counsel, Kristina Gasson, stated that the Open Meeting Law was amended to allow meetings remotely until 2025 but that the Board can elect to meet in person or in a hybrid manner as well.

Executive Director Report

Kerry Cassidy mentioned that she has been busy with enforcement action. Paul Andrews, Chair, inquired about the status of applications and if a subcommittee meeting should be scheduled. Kerry Cassidy stated that currently backlog is caught up and a subcommittee meeting is not required.

Board Counsel Report

Board Counsel, Kristina Gasson, stated that she has been busy catching up on enforcement, as well. She forwarded an update to the Secretariat with respect to the regulations and was informed that they are still being reviewed by Accounting and Finance.

Discuss other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting.

- The Board was notified immediately prior to the meeting regarding the FSMTB nominations and elections to take place at the annual meeting this month; Motion was proposed to authorize Pallas Hutchison to vote as she deems appropriate as the delegate to the FSMTB annual meeting; So Moved by Paul Andrews; Seconded by Sheri Miller-Bedau
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, and Sheri Miller-Bedau
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Motion to exit public session at 10:11 AM and enter executive session pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §21(a) (1) to discuss individuals' character and reputation rather than competence, thereafter to enter closed session to conduct settlement and investigative conferences with the public meeting not to resume; So Moved By Ellen Walker; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison.

- Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
- Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, and Sheri Miller-Bedau
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Application Review-Executive Session *[Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing reputation or character rather than professional competence pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §21(a) (1)]*

The Board reviewed the following applications in closed Executive Session:

- 2023-228-MT-MT-APP [GB]
- 2023-287-MT-MT-APP [JB]

There was a motion to exit Executive Session and move to Closed Investigative Conference followed by a Quasijudicial Session at 10:41 AM; So Moved By Alexei Levine; Seconded By Sheri Miller-Bedau

- Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
- Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Ellen Walker, and Sheri Miller-Bedau
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

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

The Board took the following actions during the closed session:

Ticket Review

- 2023-200870-FI-ENF - Dismissed

Review Matters Prior to Issuance of an Order to Show Cause

- 2023-000263-IT-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions
- 2023-000389-IT-ENF - Dismissed with Advisory
- 2023-000357-IT-ENF – Dismissed
- 2023-000400-IT-ENF – Dismissed with Advisory
- 2023-000330-IT-ENF – Dismissed with Direction to Staff
- 2022-000894-IT-ENF – Refer to Prosecutions
- 2021-001191-IT-ENF – Dismissed

Quasijudicial Session - *[Closed adjudicatory session pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, § 18, ¶ 5(d)]*

- 2022-000786-IT-ENF – Issue Final Decision and Order

Motion to exit closed session and to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 AM; So Moved By Sheri Miller-Bedau; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison. All in favor.

- The meeting adjourned at 11:38 AM

Respectfully submitted,



Kerry Cassidy
Executive Director



Paul Andrews
Board Chair

List of Documents used in Public Session:

MT Public Agenda 09.11.2023
MT Executive Meeting Minutes 08.07.2023
MT Public Meeting Minutes 08.07.2023

