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Board of Registration of Massage Therapy
April 8, 2024 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, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler, and Sheri Miller-Bedau

Members Absent: Alexei Levine/Vice Chair

Staff: Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director, Peter Kelley, Board Counsel

Meeting Called to Order

Remote meeting procedures – At approximately, 10:01 AM, Paul Andrews confirmed quorum via roll call vote which showed the following members participating via remote means; Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler, and Sheri Miller-Bedau; Paul Andrews called the meeting to order.

Board Business

- The Board reviewed the Public Session Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2024. Motion was made to approve minutes as presented; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison, Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, Sheri Miller-Bedau, and Kimberlee Schuler
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Board discussed the upcoming FSMTB conference and delegated Board Member Sheri Miller-Bedau to attend on behalf of the Board. Motion was made to nominate Sheri Miller-Bedau as the Massachusetts Board Member Representative; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison, Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, Sheri Miller-Bedau, and Kimberlee Schuler
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed



Correspondence

- An inquiry was submitted to the Board on the Perrin Technique to determine if it is permitted to perform in a session. During discussion by the members, the technique was compared to lymphatic drainage and craniosacral work. The Board determined that the Perrin Technique is an advanced massage therapy modality, as such, a massage therapist performing the technique must be within the scope of practice of MT and must ensure that they have relevant training and appropriate prior supervised practice before performing the modality as part of their practice. In addition, as part of the inquiry involves the therapeutic touching of private body parts, the massage therapist must ensure that informed consent is obtained prior to commencing any such treatment. Motion was made for staff to respond as such on the Board's behalf; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler, Seconded by Pallas Hutchison
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Pallas Hutchison, Sheri Miller-Bedau, and Kimberlee Schuler
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Compliance Monitoring

- 2020-000863-IT-ENF Zixiu Zhou- A request was made by Ms. Zhou for additional time to find compliance monitors in order to comply with the consent agreement that was executed on January 26, 2023. Required 1 year probation, 4 monitoring reports, continuing ed. The Board interviewed monitors on July 10, 2023, and August 7, 2023, and all proposed monitors were rejected by the Board. Individual MT license expired 9/28/23. The Board met with the licensee on 4/8/24 and had no evidence of any activities to comply with Consent Agreement in last 90 days. No compliance with consent agreement for 15 months. The Board decided to conclude this discussion and continue deliberation in closed session.

Executive Director Report

- Kerry Cassidy notified the Board of upcoming scheduled hearings. Some members requested brief summaries of the hearings prior to agreeing to participate.
 - 2023-000064-IT-ENF scheduled for June 11th and 12th, 2024 in person
 - 2021-000654-IT-ENF scheduled for July 24th, 2024, via teleconference
 - 2023-000636-IT-ENF scheduled for August 21st and 22nd, 2024 via teleconference

Kerry Cassidy gave a report on the recent 2024 FSMTB Massage Board Executive Summit that she had attended on April 3rd-5th, 2024 in Savannah, Georgia. Kerry expressed the importance of attending this conference as it provided the opportunity to network with other regulatory boards to learn how other jurisdictions are maintaining regulatory standards, licensure mobility, migrating licensure fraud, and human trafficking.

Board Counsel Report

- Peter Kelley gave an update on regulations. Will report on any advancements in the review process.

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

- No unanticipated matters were discussed.

At 10:55 AM, Sheri Miller-Bedau moved to exit Public Session and enter into Closed Session pursuant to G. L. c. 112, § 65C and G. L. c. 30A, § 18, ¶ 5(d) for the purpose of conducting

investigatory, settlement, and adjudicatory conferences.; So Moved by Sheri Miller-Bedau; Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler

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

The Board took the following actions during the closed session:

- Review Matters Prior to Issuance of an Order to Show Cause
 - Jupiter Beauty Academy- Tabled for Further Information
 - 2019-000388-IT-ENF – Dismissed

Motion to exit closed session, enter open session; So, Moved by Pallas Hutchison; Seconded by Sheri Miller-Bedau. Following a roll call vote, all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting; So, Moved by Pallas Hutchison; Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler. Following a roll call vote, all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

- The meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Respectfully submitted,


Kerry Cassidy
Executive Director


Paul Andrews
Board Chair

List of Documents used in Public Session:

MT Public Agenda
MT Public Meeting Minutes 03.11.2024
Inquiry on the Perrin Technique