

Board of Registration of Massage Therapy

SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 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 provisions of the open meeting law.

Attending: Members: Saskia Cote, Chair, Paul Andrews, Vice Chair, Alexei Levine, Member, Ellen Walker, Secretary

Members absent: none

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

MT Public Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020 2:30PM – 4:16PM (EDT)

Please <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/548155349>

Meeting Called to Order – 2:30 by Saskia Cote

Evacuation procedures – Saskia Cote confirmed everyone was aware of their evacuation procedures.

Board Meeting Business

- Motion to approve June 22 Public and Executive Session minutes with changes – correct typos, add titles (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary) - Paul Andrews and voted by roll call
 - Members in favor: Saskia Cote, Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- July 13 Public and Executive Session Minutes with change – start time 11:15AM, add titles, was resolution received - Danielle to follow up for next meeting

Correspondence

- Email dated 8.12.20 from Andrea Gonzalez about vacuum cavitation massage – discussion ensued regarding aesthetics machine; MT liable if they use – No official response

Board Counsel Report

- Proposed CORI policy – Sheila discussed statutory language disqualifying anyone within 10 years of a sexually related crime; legislature took it out of the board's hands; prostitution is a sex crime and therefore falls within the statutory disqualification if within ten years of application date. The board can advocate for those forced into prostitution.

Discussion

- Commissioner D'Emilia's Letter, dated 7.8.2020 to MT Board

- National Exam – Discussion revolved around hardship and no protection for people being trafficked by Saskia; Paul noted it has been used successfully in other states; exams create a standard for accountability; Sheila recommend licensing program that includes examination requirement; Alexei is against exams but with recent security issues now supports them; students should be given a generous timeline
- CE Requirements – Paul Andrews suggested moving to next meeting: 9/28
- Interviewing Compliance Officers – Paul Andrews suggested moving to next meeting: 9/28
- New School Regulations proposal (Alexei Levine) – Discussed changing hours to 600 from 650 and an approximate breakdown of hours including 500 hours of academic courses, including at least 120 hours in the Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and Kinesiology of the Body; at least 150 hours in supervised in-classroom Massage Theory and Technique (as defined by the State of Massachusetts) ; and at least 30 hours in Ethics, Professionalism, and Business Practices. Additionally, the 600 hour course of study shall include at least 100 hours of unpaid and supervised clinical or internship experience.

Investigative Conference [closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C] Saskia Cote motioned to close the public portion of the meeting and enter closed session pursuant to G. L. c. 112, § 65C to discuss investigative matters and settlement terms, and final decisions in quasi-judicial matters pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 18(d)(5), seconded by Alexei Levine, Following a roll call vote, Members in favor: Cote, Andrews, Levine, Walker Members opposed: None. The motion passed.

Public session resumed. During closed session the Board took the following actions

- 2019-209157-FI-ENF [Courtney Scharneck] – Board discussed settlement terms with prosecutor.
- 2019-000488-IT-ENF [Meihua Zhang] – Forwarded to prosecutions.
- 2019-000489-IT-ENF (FengZhou) – Forwarded to prosecutions.
- 2019-000078-IT-ENF [De Jin Chen] – Opened complaint and forwarded to prosecutions.

Settlement Conference [closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C]

- Soothe Terms – Discussed settlement terms with Board Counsel.

Adjudication Session

- 2020-000317-IT-ENF [MeiXiang Qian]
- 2020-000294-IT-ENF [Laying Chen]
- 2020-000304-IT-ENF [Wan Hongli]
- 2020-000295-IT-ENF [Wang]
- 2020-000306-IT-ENF [Huang]
- 2020-000288-IT-ENF [Zhang]
- 2020-000388-IT-ENF [Xiong]
- 2020-000300-IT-ENF [Chunyan Jiang]
- 2020-000309-IT-ENF [Yu HongJun]

- 2020-000319-IT-ENF [Ying Hang]
- 2020-000316-IT-ENF [Hexiang Qian]
 - Motion to issue final decisions in the above-entitled matters– Saskia Cote; seconded by Paul Andrews; and voted by roll call
 - Members in favor: Saskia Cote, Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

New Business/ Open session for topics *(not reasonably anticipated by chair 48 hours in advance of meeting)*

Adjourn – 4:16pm Saskia Cote motioned; Paul Andrews seconded,
 Members in favor: Saskia Cote, Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Ellen Walker
 Members opposed: None; Motion passed.

Reasonable accommodations or modifications will be provided to individuals with disabilities to participate in the meeting taking place on the date listed above. All requests should be directed to Cheryl Yebba at 617-727-4992 or TTY/TDD: (617) 727-2099 by no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. While the Board will attempt to honor all requests those requests received less than 48 hours prior to the meeting may not be provided due to feasibility.