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Board of Registration of Social Workers
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LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Session Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Quanesha Boykins, Chair
Richard Powers, Vice Chair
Jeffrey Trant, Secretary
Carrie Kelley

STAFF: Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

Board Business

- **Public Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Boykins, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Executive Session Minutes of August 24, 2021:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Boykins, seconded by Ms. Barnes Munro, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 24, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
- **2022 Meeting Dates:** Mr. Bialas proposed meeting dates for 2022. The Board accepted the proposed dates.

Discussion

- **Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination CE Policy:** The Board discussed the draft policy. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Boykins, seconded by Mr. Trant, to approve the policy as drafted. The motion passed unanimously.



Application Review – Prior Discipline

- **Jon Norman, Applicant for Re-Licensure as LICSW:** The Board considered Mr. Norman's application and past discipline. The Board directed Mr. Bialas to invite Mr. Norman to a meeting for an interview.

Monitoring Report

- **Kate Henneberry, 2018-001084-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension:** The Board considered Ms. Henneberry's petition. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Boykins, seconded by Mr. Powers, to accept the petition. The motion passed unanimously.

Application Review Interviews – Negative Reference

- **Lainie Croke, Applicant for LCSW, Interview of Supervisor Patricia Kiessling:**

Mr. Bialas reported that Ms. Kiessling refuses to appear, Ms. Kiessling stating that she cannot verify that the invitation to appear is from the Social Worker Board.

Ms. Croke appeared by telephone. She explained that working for Ms. Kiessling's employer was difficult, her documentation is better now, and her new employer handles insurance issues for her and is supportive.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Trant, seconded by Ms. Kelley, to allow Ms. Croke to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Jonathan Francis, Applicant for LSW, Interview of Supervisor Beth Gutierrez:** Ms. Gutierrez appeared to discuss multiple concerns regarding Mr. Francis's performance. She explained that, although she did not supervise him directly, she supervised his direct supervisors and was aware of, and addressed, issues with his performance. Mr. Gutierrez reported that Mr. Francis was willing to learn and accept criticism but needs more attention to detail. He has potential but needs to improve his skills connecting clients to resources.

The Board continued the interview in executive session to discuss sensitive medical information.

Executive Session (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1), individual character rather than competence, and 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)

At 10:15 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Boykins, seconded by Mr. Trant, to exit the public meeting and enter into a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(1) to review the good moral character of two applicants, and 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 as part of an interview regarding a fitness to practice evaluation report and two interviews regarding negative references in applications. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board entered executive session at 10:15 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

The above Minutes were approved at the public meeting held on October 26, 2021.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:

- Agenda for Meeting of September 28, 2021
- Public Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2021
- Executive Session Minutes August 24, 2021
- Draft Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination CE Policy
- Documents regarding Prior Discipline from LICSW Re-Licensure Application of Jon Norman
- Kate Henneberry, 2018-001084-IT-ENF, Petition to Terminate Stayed Suspension
- Documents regarding Negative Reference from LCSW Application of Lainie Croke
- Documents regarding Negative Reference from LSW Application of Jonathan Francis