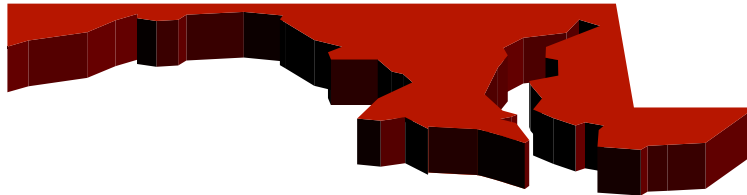


State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners



**Open Session Minutes
May 8, 2020, 10:30 AM
Teleconference Board Meeting**

Board Members: Via Telephone Call-In

Sherryl Silberman	Professional Member, Chair
Wrenn Skidmore	Professional Member, Vice Chair
Karen Richards	Professional Member, Secretary/Treasurer
Letha Moszer	Professional Member
Donald J. List	Professional Member
Gerard Farrell	Consumer Member
Jamie Wilson	Professional Member
Sondra G. Petty	Professional Member
Barbara Gassaway	Consumer Member
Susan P. Coppage	Professional Member
April A. Cockrell	Professional Member
Martin P. Schnuit	Professional Member

Board Staff: Stanley E. Weinstein	Executive Director
Rhonda Edwards	OAG, Board Counsel
Kara Brooks-Tyson	Director of Compliance and Investigations
Donna Ridgell	Administrative Aide
Lillian Reese	Legislation and Regulations Specialist
Gail Wowk	Director of Planning and Continuing Education
Gloria Jean Hammel	Director, Certification and Licensing Unit
Tyrone Willoughby	Board Social Work Supervisor
Earnest Ford Sr.	Board Investigator
Stacie Rigby	Continuing Education Associate

Guest: Daphne McClellan	Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter
Giselle Ferreto	University of Maryland, School of Social Work
Trudy Protway	Helpful School

Mark Acosta
Thelma Rich
Graduate Students & Staff

Coordinator Center
Morgan State University
University of Maryland School of Social Work and other
Campuses

ASWB Community

CALL TO ORDER:

The Open Session was called to order at 10:38 am. by Board Chair Sherryl Silberman

MINUTES:

February 14, 2020 and April 10, 2020 minutes – Approved unanimously

BOARD CHAIR

Sherryl Silberman

- Sherryl Silberman opened the meeting by acknowledging graduate students from several Maryland Universities, ASWB and the social work communities
- A discussion was held on the types of clinical courses accepted by the Board’s licensing unit for advance licensure. The main topic of discussion was “clinical research courses”. Sherryl Silberman informed the Board that history shows that clinical research courses were not accepted due to the nature of the contents which has a vast range. After much discussion, these types of course can be complex in nature. The Board members agreed to disallowing clinical research courses.
- Sherryl Silberman asked that the discussion on Supervision hours for LCSW-C be tabled for the Statute and Regulations Committee Report to be shared by Wrenn Skidmore, Committee Chair.
- Sherryl Silberman revisited the major concerns students and the social work communities had regarding temporary licenses for the social work graduating class of 2020. Stanley Weinstein was asked to update the public and all concerned entities, that the recommendation for provisional licenses are beyond the scope of the Boards authority. In addition, Governor Hogan has the authority and as of this date has not directed the Board to provide provisional licenses to graduate students. NASW-National, CSWE, ASWB has jointly agreed that providing such a license would only serve as a short-term solution with serious long-term implications. However, Stanley Weinstein shared that Pearson Testing Center started to open their testing sites in all 50 states. Due to the social distancing policy they are looking to open more sites to accommodate the overwhelming numbers of students. In short, the Board will not be issuing provisional licenses.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stanley Weinstein

- The newly elected Executive Board officers was shared by Stanley Weinstein. Effective July 1, 2020
 - Board Chair – Jerry Farrell
 - Vice Chair – Karen Richards
 - Secretary/Treasurer – Donald List

- Stanley Weinstein shared with the Board how the COVID-19 has affected Board staff and its operation. Several staff members are teleworking from home while there are some staff who are working part time in the office and teleworking from home. Kara Tyson, Tyrone Willoughby and Donna Ridgell are currently in the office every day. Applications are still being processed, investigations are still be conducted, meetings are still being held, and CEU's are still being approved. The Board has received thousand of emails and calls however, despite this unprecedented occurrence, the Board staff is functioning in a 100% compacity. The staff members are commended for their continue commitment to the social work community.
- Stanley Weinstein informed the Board that the Board's office located at 4201 Patterson Ave is currently closed to the public. The Board can only receive packages and mail via US Postal services, Fed Ex and UPS.
- Stanley Weinstein gave an update on the approval. LCSW-C and LMSW (who are supervised), to practice teletherapy. Approval has been given to inactive social workers to work in health care facilities. CEU requirements can be obtained online however Category I must be live and in real time. Out of State licensing fees to practice in the state of Maryland have been temporarily waived until the State of Emergency end.
- Tyrone Willoughby was asked to give an update on the renewal process. Tyrone shared a plan has not been put into place yet as the licensing unit is focusing on the approval of applications. The licensing renewal date will begin on July 15, 2020. However, due to Governor Hogan's Executive Order the renewal final date may be extended beyond the planned due date of 10/31/2020. His order specifies that licensing renewals will be extended until 30 days after the State of Emergency ends. So, if it doesn't end on 10/1/20 it will be extended 30 days after the Executive Order ends

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statute and Regulations Committee - Wrenn Skidmore, Chair

- As the Committee continues to review the Statutes, Wrenn Skidmore asked Board members to discuss and vote on several suggested, language changes to the Statute prior to presenting to the Board a *drafted* proposal. The changes included the following
 - **19-202. A2 1-3 - Membership**
A suggestion to change some designated seat established for Board members to provide three at large seats in order to have flexibility in filling the Board seats within a timely manner. The Board voted unanimously to change the language to allow flexibility
 - **19-302.E - Qualifications of applicants**
An option was discussed to revise the amount of face to face supervision hours necessary for LCSW-C from 144 to 100 hours. A study showed that 26 different states require 100 hours or less was considered. A vote was taken with nine of the twelve members agreeing to change the language in the draft to 100 hours. This improves mobility across states for licensed social workers moving or working in multiple states.
 - **19-315 - Social Worker Rehabilitation Committees**
A previous discussion was held to possibly remove the Rehabilitation Committee Section of the Statute which has never been used. After further consideration, the committee considered possibly editing the Statute from calling it a Rehabilitation Committee to a

Rehabilitation Process which would include evaluations, treatment etc. A unanimous vote was made to edit the current Statute.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Karen Richards, Chair

- The committee met on April 17, 2020. A discussion was held on COVID emergency and how the committee could better assist the social work community. There are no changes made to the CEU requirements. Gail and Stacie have been working with Sponsors to provide Category I online training. Gail will have in the upcoming Spring Newsletter a link to a website called “Train”. It’s a VA state and federal bases training network site.
- The deadline for Provisional Sponsors to submit their training was April 15th 2020 in order to become an Authorize Sponsor.
- The Committee has been utilizing the ACE Program Handbook as a tool for reviewing the content of CEU’s. This book can be found on the ASWB website.
- The next meeting will be held on May 15, 2020

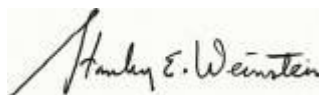
ADJOURNMENT OF THE OPEN SESSSION

The Open Session adjourned at 12:05 PM



Karen Richards, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer

___09/14/2020_____
Date



Stanley E. Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C
Executive Director

___09/14/2020_____
Date