

Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

General Session

March 28, 2018

Members Present

David A. Cox, LMT, Chair
Gwenda Harrison, LMT, Vice-Chair
Gloria Boddie-Epps, Secretary/Treasurer
Paula K. Jilanis, LMT
J. Paige Szymanski, LMT
Caitlin M. Thompson, LMT

Non-Members Present

Carla Boyd, AAG
Laurie Sheffield-James, Executive Director
Adrienne Congo, Deputy Director
Serita Anderson, Administrative Specialist
Lee Gorschboth, CCBC
Damien Archambeau, CMSM
Athena Boyd, CMSM
Martin Chamberlain, MAC FSMTA
Marcy Meyers, A Touch of Luck
Sabrina Lopez, AMTA
Cheryl Crosby, Hair Academy
Michael Shirley, Hair Academy
Angela Stein, Massage Envy
Sharon Bloom, MDH

-
- I. **Call to Order – at 10:08 AM - David Cox, LMT, Chair**
 - II. **Roll Call – All present** Note: AB Grant Gerber, AAG, Board Counsel > Substitute Board Counsel for today is Carla Boyd, AAG AB Margaret Hayes, Consumer Member
 - III. **Review/Approval of General Session Agenda – (motion Gloria Boddie-Epps/2nd Paula Jilanis) was approved with corrections and additions. -Passed**
 - IV. **Review/Approval of Minutes – February 28, 2018 – (motion Paula Jilanis/2nd J. Paige Szymanski) – Minutes was approved. -Passed**
 - V. **Reports:**
 - A. **Chair – Strategic Planning Retreat (STP)-** I appointed an in house committee of Paula Jilanis, Licensing Committee Chair, Margaret Hayes, Consumer Member and myself, to talk with Kim Rhines concerning the STP Retreat to help her get a feel of what we are planning to set up. She is planning to send a survey to everyone that will be attending to get feedback.

B. Committee(s) Report(s)

(1) Advisory Committee- Gwenda Harrison, LMT, Vice-Chair-

House Bill 1598- *Chair* called for *Sabrina Lopez, AMTA* to speak on HB1598- The bill is going to the Senate Committee this afternoon the hearing will be held at 1:00 PM. It's the Education Committee to clarify the 24 hours required to become a Licensed Massage Therapist (LMT) we changed that to be 24 credit hours or 350 contact hours. The Delegates and some of the Senators are concerned if there will be a grandfathering process or that we are making it too difficult to become a LMT from a Registered Massage Practitioner (RMP) status. *Chair-Paula Jilanis* and I talked with *Sabrina Lopez* to explain that things are really not changing that much. The Board will be clarifying things for the students coming out of college and especially proprietary schools. *Laurie Sheffield-James- FYI-* I would like to thank *Gwenda Harrison* who testified at the first hearing on March 7, 2018, there was some questions from the delegates about the credit/contact hours she was able to explain to them the difference between the two. I received a number of phone calls as well about the fiscal impact HB 1598 will have, there will be no fiscal impact. The bill looks good and it was submitted to the Senate with all of the Boards amendments and changes. *Gwenda Harrison* will be going to Annapolis again this evening to testify.

C. Executive Director: Fiscal Report by Linda Byers, Fiscal Officer- Chair – What is the Boards current status in terms of finances by this being our off year? *Linda Byers-* the Board is actually not doing badly you have a lot of new applicants coming in and this is helping during the off year. The Board will be doing great as long as the new applicants keep coming in. *Laurie Sheffield- James* - the agency budget report for Chiropractic and Massage are about the same, most of the things in our budget can't be changed. A vacancy is giving us a little leave way, but that will change. Somethings we can control to be more fiscal responsible *ex.* conferences, trainings, postage and office supplies. *Linda Byers* – the Board have a lot of fixed cost. Have the Board consider doing a 50/50 split with your licensees? *Chair* – we have discussed that it wouldn't change the people that are in, but the new people coming in will be affected. The Board will look into this after renewal. *Laurie Sheffield- James-*the Chiropractic Board is on the off year of licensing and has taken the indirect cost, next year the Massage Board will take the indirect cost. The Boards share staff base on percentages reflected of specific staff duties.

Chair – we are a self-funding Board, those things that we can control will be kept under control. *Laurie Sheffield-James-* would like to remind the Board when we have an official present at an event it should be approved prior to the event. *Adrienne Congo, Deputy Director-* most of our cost has been cut because of the governors 'and the Boards' initiative for on-line notifications and information to licensees and registrants. The Board use to subscribe to third party services for sending out email blast, now with MDH technically this is done in-house. We do not send our wall certificates out to be printed anymore they are also done internally. The newsletter is on the website verses sending out hard copies, an email blast is sent to the licensees notifying them of the link.

**Gwenda Harrison, Advisory Committee Chair, joined the meeting @ 10:30 AM
Chair - we will resume with the Advisory Committee:*

(1) Advisory Committee, Gwenda Harrison- House Bill 309

Did pass the committee, this bill give local law enforcement greater authority to investigate and enter Massage Parlor Establishments to make sure that they are license.
Chair- the Board did a letter of support for this bill. *Laurie Sheffield-James-* there was only one amendment to this bill and that is for it to be active in July instead of October.

VI. Board Counsel – Nothing to Report

VII. New Business: Thai Yoga- *Laurie Sheffield-James* - this came to the Board as a question of concern about people who are practicing Thai Yoga was also practicing massage therapy. There isn't anything we can do because yoga is not in our scope of practice so this is more of a FYI. *Gwenda Harrison*, at some point will we have a discussion about Thai Massage? *Adrienne Congo*, I think at some point we will have to look at this because we are getting calls from business establishments inquiring about individuals who is maybe a yoga instructor introducing this modality to the business owner as Thai Massage, Thai Bodywork, Thai yoga. The concern that the Board will have is the utilization of bodywork and the term massage along with the actual physical act of what the person is doing. There could be an issue dealing with public safety with the training component and what they are doing. *Chair –* I agree with *Adrienne Congo* that we will eventually take a look at this because of the terms bodywork and massage being used.

VIII. Old Business: No Report

IX. Ratification of New Licensees and New Registrants –*Paula Jilanis made a motion to ratified the new licensees, 2nd by Caitlin Thompson – Passes*

X. Miscellaneous Discussion: *Chair-* Thanks the public audience for a great turn out.

General Session Adjourned at 11:15 AM we will be moving to the Executive Session after a brief break. (*motion Gwenda Harrison / 2nd by J.Paige Szymanski*)

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria Boddie-Epps
Secretary/Treasurer