

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2013

The 580th Open meeting of the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by the Vice-Chairperson, Jeffrey Barnett, Psy.D, ABPP.

Board members present:

Joann Altiero, Ph.D.
Robert Brown, Ph.D., ABPP
Irene W. Leigh, Ph.D.
Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member
Neal R. Morris, Ed.D., MS, CBSM, ABPP
Harriet Rakes, Consumer Member

Board members absent:

Steve Sobelman, Ph.D.
Myra Waters, Ph.D.

Staff present:

Lorraine Smith, Executive Director
Dorothy Kutcherman, Licensing Coordinator
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel
Brett Felter, Staff Attorney

Public Present:

Georgia Royalty, Ph.D., MPA
Paula Hollinger, DHMH
Sharon Bloom, DHMH

Interpreters

Sandra Brown and Justine Garrett

A. Minutes

Open minutes of the meeting held on November 2, 2012 were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes and a vote called:

For – 6; Abstention – 1

B. Announcements

Executive Director – Ms. Smith reported that of the 11 individuals that took the jurisprudence exam on December 14, 2012, one person failed. The list of registrants for the January 25, 2013 exam was distributed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the list and to authorize the Licensing Committee to approve others who may register for the exam later.**

Ms. Smith reported that she and Dr. Sobelman had a conference call with Mr. David Mark, Chief, DHMH Training Services and discussed allowing test participants to take the law exam remotely. Mr. Mark stated that the system had that capacity. Since 24 hour technical support would not be available, it was recommended that times be scheduled for taking the exam. Mr. Mark suggested that a pilot test be performed with Maryland residents only before fully implementing the process. It was agreed that the system would be piloted in May.

Ms. Smith reported that Delegate Hubbard and Senator Montgomery will sponsor the Board's renewal bill and the psychology associate licensing bill. The Board's legislative committee consists of Drs. Sobelman, Barnett, and Brown, Ms. Bethman, Mr. Felter, and Ms. Smith.

Ms. Smith and Ms. Bethman discussed a new contract received from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), pertaining to the Examination of Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP). Historically the Board's EPPP contract has been with the Professional Examination Service (PES). Starting in March 2013 the Board's contract will be with ASPPB, however PES will continue to administer the exam. The new contract contains several changes, including requiring a 60-day waiting period before an applicant can retake the exam; restricting an applicant to four times a year that they can take the exam; ASPPB will have the authority to change policies and procedures without input from the Boards; and ASPPB will have the option of making the final determination as to if an American with Disabilities Act request is valid, and providing support to Boards in the event that a candidate contest the matter. Some of the changes are not in line with the Board's current regulations. Ms. Smith will seek clarification with ASPPB.

C. Psychology Associate Bill

Dr. Barnett reviewed the Board's response to the Maryland Psychological Association's (MPA) letter pertaining to their concern with the Board's legislative bill to license psychology associates (PAs). MPA feels that licensing PAs will lead to them practicing independently, thereby diminishing the need for psychologists at the doctoral level. The Board stated in its response that the bill continues to require psychology associates to be supervised by a licensed psychologist and the bill strengthens and clarifies the dependent relationship of psychology associates with licensed psychologists. In addition, the bill imposes accountability on psychology associates for their actions and provides clarity to the public as to who is authorized to provide psychological services. Following

discussion, **a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the response letter to MPA.**

D. Board Certified Behavioral Analysts

Ms. Smith reported that Delegate Resnick will be submitting a legislative bill. The bill will establish a Behavior Analyst Advisory Committee within the Board of Examiners of Psychologists in order to license Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BAs). BAs provide behavioral therapy services to children with autism. There are about 140 in Maryland and they work mainly in places like Kennedy Krieger and the Linwood Center. After some discussion it was the consensus to review the bill before making any decisions.

E. ASPPB

Dr. Brown gave a report on the ASPPB meeting he attended in October. The topics discussed included license mobility; behavior analysts; state law exams and telepsychology. Dr. Brown stated that the meeting was very informative and provided a handout that summarized the meeting.

F. Committee Reports

Disciplinary – Dr. Barnett reported that the committee continues to recruit supervisors/mentors.

Licensing Issues – Dr. Brown reported that the committee continues to review applications for licensure and perform audits of continuing education. The committee will meet on January 14, 2013.

Operations – Ms. Smith reported the budget hearings will take place in February and March.

Public Affairs – Ms. McCargo-Redd reported articles for the newsletter are still being collected.

G. Closed Session/Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session to engage in a medical review deliberation. The Board entered into closed session at 11:30 a.m. and came out of closed session at 11:37 a.m. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into administrative session at 11:51 to discuss disciplinary matters and to consult with Counsel.** The Board came out of administrative session at 2:55 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey Barnett, Ph.D., ASPPB
Vice-Chairperson