

Friday, April 17, 2020

The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice

Chairperson: Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L

Via Google Hangout

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES

In attendance: WB, DM, SQ, Bethan, Denise, EQ, RS, CB, LR, MP

In Attendance

Members of the Board

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|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Chairperson..... | Wanda Banks |
| Vice Chairperson..... | Dan Martin |
| Secretary/Consumer Member..... | E.J. Quinn |
| OT Member..... | Caitlin Brogan |
| OT Member..... | Rae Ann Smith |
| OTA Member..... | Sarah Quirk |
| Consumer Member..... | Marilyn Pierre |

Staff

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|-------------------------|---------------|
| Executive Director..... | Lauren Murray |
| Board Counsel..... | Bethan Haaga |
| Compliance Officer..... | Denise Goetz |

Guests

| | |
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| Legislation and Regulations Coordinator..... | Lillian Reese |
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9:00—GENERAL SESSION -- OPEN MEETING

1. Ms. Banks called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM.
2. Ms. Banks asked for approval of April General Session Agenda. Ms. Smith made a motion. Ms. Quirk seconded it. All were in favor.
3. Ms. Banks asked for approval of March General Session Minutes. Ms. Quirk made a motion. Mr. Martin seconded it. All were in favor.
4. Ms. Banks asked for approval of ratification of 22 OTs and 2 OTAs from March's Executive Session. Mr. Martin made a motion. Ms. Smith seconded it. All were in favor.

REPORTS

1. Administrative Reports – FY'20

Staff: Lauren Murray

- a. Update on Hiring of Assistant Director
 - a. There is currently a hiring freeze for the State of Maryland.
 - b. Special funded agencies are not exempt from this hiring freeze, and since the Board had not reached the interviewing stage, the position will be on hold until after the freeze has been lifted.
- b. Fingerprints
 - a. There has not been any order that waives fingerprinting, so new licensees and those renewing their licenses must still be fingerprinted.
 - b. Those who are renewing have been told that they can wait until the stay at home order is lifted to be fingerprinted.
- c. Renewals
 - a. Licensees can renew online or by paper application.
 - b. The Board allowed for renewals to begin this month instead of waiting until May.
 - c. Ms. Quirk asked if paper applications or online were better. Ms. Murray said that online applications would be faster for the licensees.
- d. Fee Waiver/Extension
 - a. Ms. Murray reported that some licensees have asked if there could be a renewal fee waiver or extension due to COVID-19. Ms. Murray is worried about this because it would be difficult to enforce. Ms. Banks agreed.
 - b. Mr. Martin worries about too many complaints and administrative hardship.
 - c. Ms. Murray mentioned that there is the option of becoming inactive and then reactivating one's license.

2. Legislation/Regulations Committee –

Sarah Quirk, COTA/L

Caitlin Brogan, OT/R

Marylin Pierre, Esquire, Consumer Member

Staff: Lauren Murray

1. HB448
 - a. Governor Hogan passed a bill that allows for more telehealth privileges in Maryland.
2. Dry Needling Regulation Development: Daniel Martin, Ph.D.
 - a. Mr. Martin and Ms. Quirk are still working on it.
3. Ms. Reese asked if the Board was planning to work on telehealth regulations. Ms. Murray said it would be discussed in Executive Session.

3. Continuing Education Committee –

Sarah Quirk, COTA/L

Rae-Ann Smith, OT/R

Staff: Denise Goetz

Nothing to report.

4. Secretary's Report

E.J. Quinn, Consumer Member, Secretary

Nothing to report

5. Executive Committee--
Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L
Daniel Martin, Ph.D.
Staff: Lauren Murray

Correspondence

- a. Inquiry from April 1, 2020: OTA wanted to know if IEP meetings could be completed via telehealth and wanted more clarification on what school system work could be completed via telehealth.
 - a. Ms. Banks said that she has done IEP meetings via telehealth.
 - b. Ms. Quirk said that IEP meetings are not treatment, so this would be fine.
- b. Inquiry from April 2, 2020: OT wanted to know if an OTA could be supervised via FaceTime or Zoom.
 - a. Ms. Quirk said that the supervision could be completed via telehealth, and the patient does not have to be a part of it.
- c. Inquiry from April 6, 2020: Licensee wants to know if patients should be discharged even if their COVID-19 related hold extends past 30 days.
 - a. Ms. Smith said that the decision needs to be made by the facility.
- d. Inquiry from March 31, 2020: An OTA wants to know if s/he can complete discharges.
 - a. Ms. Smith said that the OTA cannot complete the discharge.
- e. Inquiry from April 10, 2020: An OT wants clarification if s/he can perform initial assessments as Medicare Part A states and wants to know the definition of "certain home bound patients."
 - a. Mr. Martin asked if she was asking about Medicare Part A or Part B, since part A is inpatient. Ms. Murray will follow-up.
- f. Inquiry from April 10, 2020: An OT wants to know if s/he can obtain clinical hours or continuing competency hours in a state where s/he is not licensed.
 - a. Obtaining continuing competency hours out of state is fine, but the licensee must check with the other states' boards regarding clinical practice without a license.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The May meeting will be held at the Board Office unless restrictions are still in place.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.

