

Friday, November 18, 2016

The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice

Spring Grove Hospital Center
Benjamin Rush Building

Chairperson: Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L, Vice Chairperson

11:06 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Wanda R. Banks, MA, OTR/L, Vice Chairperson
Kimberly Goodman, MS, OTR/L, Secretary/Treasurer
Kim Sands, OTD, OTR/L
Daniel Martin, OTR/L, FAAPM, FASSET, CMTPT/CDN
A.Cassandra Brown, Consumer Member
Marylin Pierre, Esquire, Consumer Member

NON-BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Donna Ashman, Executive Director
Anthony DeFranco, Board Counsel
Lauren Murray, Assistant Director
Jo-Ann Lane, Deputy Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Vanessa Hughes, COTA/L, Chairperson

NON-BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

GUESTS

Denise Figueiredo, MOTA Representative

1. Ms. Banks called the General Session meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.
2. Ms. Goodman motioned to approve the November 18, 2016 General Session agenda. Mr. Martin seconded the motion.
All were in favor.
3. Ms. Sands motioned to approve the October 21, 2016 General Session minutes. Mr. Martin seconded the motion.
All members were in favor.

REPORTS

1. Office of Attorney General (OAG) – Tony DeFranco, Board Counsel

Mr. DeFranco conveyed there was nothing to report.

2. Legislation/Regulations Committee – Kim Sands, OTD, OTR/L, Marylin Pierre, Esquire, Consumer Member, Donna Ashman, Staff Member and Lauren Murray, Staff Member

a. NC Dental Workgroup – Marylin Pierre, Esquire

Ms. Ashman informed the Board members that the workgroup presented three proposals to achieve oversight of disciplinary matters in certain circumstances:

- 1) To have the respective Secretary of Health provide oversight of certain disciplinary decisions; or,
- 2) To have the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) review certain disciplinary decisions; or,
- 3) To have DHMH review certain disciplinary decisions.

On behalf of the Board of OT, Ms. Hughes voted for Option #2, that is to refer certain disciplinary cases to the OAH. The final meeting of the workgroup will be on November 30, 2016 and is open to the public.

b. OT Statute Clean-up

Ms. Ashman questioned whether the Board members wanted to keep this on the monthly agendas or wait until closer to the 2018 proposal deadline. It was agreed to table this topic.

c. Criminal Background Records Checks

Ms. Ashman informed the members that the staff met with the Physical Therapy Board investigator to review their policy and procedures for executing criminal background records checks. Ms. Murray has applied for the necessary CJIS identifier numbers for the Board and will be attending a training class at the end of the month. The Board staff is planning to implement the first phase of this procedure with new applicants in 2017. Phase two will take place during the 2018 renewal. The fee for background checks will be paid by the applicant/renewal candidate, independent of the application or renewal fee.

3. Continuing Education Committee – Kim Goodman, MS, OTR/L, Kim Sands, OTD, OTR/L, and Denise Goetz, Staff Member

a. Course Reviews

The committee members had nothing to report.

4. Jurisprudence Exam Committee – Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L, Marylin Pierre, Esquire, Consumer Member, Donna Ashman, Staff Member and Lauren Murray, Staff Member

A conference call was held with the committee members, and Ms. Murray has tweaked the formatting of some of the questions. The Committee will continue to work on revising the exam and then will present it to the Board at the next Board meeting.

5. Executive Committee – Vanessa Hughes, COTA/L, Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L, Kimberly Goodman, MS, OTR/L, and Donna Ashman, Staff Member

a. Correspondence & Inquiries for Board review

In follow up to the October 11, 2016 correspondence, The Board approved the response drafted by Ms. Ashman.

The first inquiry, dated October 31, 2016, regarded whether the provision of outpatient OT services in an aquatic environment is covered in the scope of OT practice in Maryland. Ms. Goodman stated that OT services provided within an aquatic environment are within the OT scope.

The second inquiry, dated November 17, 2016 concerned a request to “grandfather” those therapists who are currently certified/educated in dry needling to continue treating while regulations are being developed. Ms. Ashman explained that the Board had a dry needling position statement in the past but had to retract it when the Attorney General’s office issued their opinion stating that regulations needed to be established specific to dry needling. The Board of Physical Therapy Examiners has proposed regulations, and the Board of OT will follow suit with proposed regulations upon approval of the PT proposal. Therefore, in light of this, the OT Board retracted its previous position statement from its website. It was decided that a statement regarding pending regulations would be added to the website as follows: “The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy intends to develop regulations specific to dry needling in the near future. There will be an opportunity for public comment when the regulations are proposed. Once regulations are adopted, licensed occupational therapy practitioners will be authorized to utilize dry needling.”

Ms. Ashman will respond to the inquirer that Occupational Therapists are currently not authorized to perform dry needling even if they were allowed to do so in the past.

6. Nominations Committee – Cassaundra Brown, Consumer Member, Jo-Ann Lane, Staff Member

The by-laws state that the Board shall elect a Nominations Committee by the close of each even numbered year, to report a slate of nominees at the open session of the Board’s May meeting, in the odd numbered years.

7. Administrative Reports – FY ’17 – Donna Ashman, Executive Director

Ms. Ashman reported that the Board staff has completed the training for the new database and continue to identify ways to streamline the application and licensure process.

Ms. Ashman reported that the Staff plans to present an IT update at Board Meetings, possibly quarterly.

Ms. Lane reported that the Board will be using GovDelivery that will allow the Staff to send out E-Blasts all at once instead of over several days, and it will allow for the development of a newsletter template.

8. Application Review Committee – Wanda R. Banks, MA, OTR/L

Ms. Banks presented 20 occupational therapists (OT) and 11 occupational therapy assistants (OTA) for ratification as follows:

OTs - 20

Anglisano, Kathryn M.
Bagul, Chandrashekhar P.
Benson, Emily M.
Brinley, Miriam A.
Chaperon, Sephora
Cooper, Marissa

Dedominic, Tessa C.
DiPietro, Erica M.
Duncan, Adam M.
Hildebrand, Beth N.
Kelly, Erin D.
King, LaDonna

Lazzaro, Kathryn E.
Puchalski, Matthew J.
Reitan, Erica A.
Ringgard, Tamara D.
Sigg, Jordan C.
Wilson, Claire P.

Allen, Ashley – reinstatement
Bassett, Alethia - reinstatement

OTAs – 11

Brown, Peyton J.
DeMaso, Robin K.
Flanagan, Alexis L.
Fogarty, Erin M.

Guttman, Elizabeth C.
Livingston, Emily F.
Maina, Winnie W.
Mitchel, Brandon L.

Rivas, Alison R.
Tice, Kayley A.
Toyer, Keisha D.

Ms. Goodman motioned to ratify the licensure of these individuals. Ms. Sands seconded the motion. All were in favor.

9. New Board Member Orientation Program

Mr. Martin and Ms. Murray attended the new board member orientation. Mr. Martin commented that it gave him a context on the role of the Board.

10. Board Member Vacancies

Ms. Ashman informed the members that there will be a vacancy for an occupational therapy assistant and a consumer member as of July 1, 2017. These vacancies will be advertised, and Ms. Hughes and Ms. Brown are eligible to reapply.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ashman reminded the Board Members that no meeting will be held in December.

The meeting was closed at 11:38 a.m.

Prepared by: Lauren Murray, Assistant Director
Submitted by: Kimberly Goodman, MS, OTR/L, Secretary/Treasurer