

# **MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE**

**4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215**

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION**

**JANUARY 11, 2022**

**1:00 p.m.**

**GOOGLE MEET**

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brandie Armijo, L.Ac., LPN, BSN, DACM, Board Chair, Sherrie Black, L.Ac., RN, Esq., Board Vice Chair, L.Ac., Christina Tian, DACM, CMD, MAOM, L.Ac., Barbara Huston, Consumer, , Peter Marinakis, L.Ac., and Sheryl Hongsermeir, L.Ac.

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Bonnie Miranda, Consumer

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:** Cynthia Dobbins, Acting Executive Director, David Finkler, AAG, and Troy Pumphrey, Investigator

### **VISITORS:**

Lillian Reese, Regulations Coordinator, Kim Link, Boards and Commission Liaison

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

Dr. Armijo called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m.

#### **A. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 9, 2021 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting were unavailable for review and will be reviewed and approved at the March meeting of the board.

#### **B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION UPDATE**

Ms. Dobbins stated that a list of twelve applicants were received and forwarded to the interview panel. The interview panel will review the applications and select applicants and choose dates and times to interview each one.

#### **C. LEGISLATION**

- a) **HB-188/SB-120 – NCCAOM Requirement** - the department has the position paper.
- b) **HB-112- Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration and Permitting** – Ms. Reese informed the board that most boards are taking no position. The bill really does not affect the acupuncture board. The Board of Physicians is opposing. The board took no position and no vote was taken.

- c) **SB-77 – Health Occupations Boards – Investigations – Right to Counsel** – Ms. Reese informed the board that a Letter of Concern has been written by the Morticians Board. Ms. Reese said that she can include the acupuncture board in joining that letter of concern. Ms. Black made a motion to join the Letter of Concern and Dr. Marinakis seconded the motion. The board unanimously agreed to join the other boards with the Letter of Concern.
- d) **SB-111 Occupational Licensing or Certificates – Pre-application Determinations – Criminal Convictions** - Reese informed the board that a Letter of Concern has been written by the Morticians Board. Ms. Reese said that she can include the acupuncture board in joining that letter of concern. Dr. Armijo made a motion to join the Letter of Concern and Ms. Black seconded the motion. The board unanimously voted to join the other boards with the Letter of Concern.
- e) **Proposed Infrastructure Bill for Boards and Commission** – Ms. Reese informed the board that this bill has not been filed or pending. It is a bill that is being paid for by the department and not the boards' themselves. Mr. Finkler summarized the bill. Mr. Finkler informed the board that they need to decide what position they wish to take. Ms. Reese stated that this bill would require the Executive Director to be approved by the Secretary and the Board Chair would be appointed by the Governor. Ms. Reese informed the board that the board can keep in touch with other Boards in expressing concern with some of the provisions when a letter is drafted. No vote is required at this time.
- f) **Legislative committee meetings/weekly meetings** – Mr. Finkler suggested that the boards' Legislative Committee meet weekly during session and that the board formerly delegate the committee to determine the boards' position on bills that affect the board to be ratified by the Board during the next Board meeting. Dr. Armijo made a motion to delegate authority to recommend support, oppose or no position and to meet every Friday during session. Ms. Black seconded the motion. The board unanimously voted to accept the motion.
- g) **Added to the Agenda – Meeting with Lobbyist Regarding Concerns with Acupuncture Bill** – Ms. Black mentioned that at the last meeting of the board in January, the legislative committee was to meet with the lobbyist from each organization that had concerns about the bill. Ms. Reese informed the board that the lobbyists are most likely busy now with legislative session and recommended that they meet with them after session is over. Mr. Finkler informed the board that they can revisit this item at the March meeting of the board.

Dr. Armijo made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session of the Board and Dr. Marinakis seconded the motion. The meeting of the board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.