

**MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE**  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
Room 105

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Kate Carter, L.Ac., Thomas Ingegno, L.Ac., Sheryl Hongsermeier, L.Ac., Peter Marinakis, L.Ac., Ph.D., and Jan Exler, M.Ed.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Teal Beatty, L.Ac., and Barbara Heller, Ed.D., R.N., Consumer

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:** Penny Heisler, Executive Director, Cynthia Dobbins, Administrative Officer, Danielle Vallone, Investigator and David Finkler, AAG

**GUESTS:**

David Blaiwas, L.Ac., President MAS, Sharon Bloom, DHMH, Mary Kay Goetter, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Nursing, L. House, Maryland Board of Nursing, David Wurzel, L.Ac., Krystal Lighty, Chair, Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, Greg Raymond, Maryland Board of Nursing and Candy Wilson, JB Andrews, USAF

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

**APPROVAL OF JULY 12, 2016 MINUTES**

After review of the Minutes, Mr. Exler moved to approve the Minutes as written and Mr. Ingegno seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved motion.

**1. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. DRY NEEDLING REGULATIONS**

Mr. Ingegno informed the Board that the Dry Needling Committee met with representatives from the Physical Therapy (PT) Board on August 2, 2016 at 10:30 AM. He stated that after much discussion and review, the Committee found that the PT Board had addressed most of the Board's concerns and has included most of the Acupuncture Board's recommended changes, except for the increase in hours. Mr. Ingegno stated that 80 hours is currently the highest requirement in the country. He stated that the Committee recommends to the Acupuncture Board that it accept the PT Board's current draft as written. After a length discussion, all Board members agreed to accept the current draft as written.

Krystal Lighty, Chair, Board of Physical Therapy Examiners thanked the Board for their continued feedback and recommendations throughout the drafting of the regulation.

**B. BATTLEFIELD ACUPUNCTURE**

Ms. Carter invited Ms. Wilson and representatives from the Nursing Board to present their request to entertain an exemption in the Board's law that would allow Maryland nurses to provide battlefield acupuncture to patients. Ms. Wilson stated that she currently works in a Federal Veteran's hospital and is finding that this particular auricular acupuncture technique is very helpful in alleviating acute and chronic pain in patients. She stated that the Defense and Veterans Center for Integrative Pain Management (DVCIPM), is seeking alternatives to prescription drugs to address acute and chronic pain. Mary Kay Goetter stated that there are many concerns over substance abuse, opiate addiction and deaths from overdoses and that an option to offer military and veteran populations the intervention of battlefield acupuncture is needed. After a question and answer period, Ms. Carter stated that the Board required more time to exam this issue and decided to form a Committee. Mr. Exler, Ms. Hongersmeier and Dr. Marinakis volunteered to sit on the Committee.

**C. SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Mr. Ingegno stated that there was no report at this time.

**D. REINSTATEMENT**

Ms. Heisler informed the Board she researched other state acupuncture board's regulations and found that no state requires active practice as a condition for reinstatement. Mr. Marinakis moved that this issue be tabled indefinitely and Mr. Exler seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved motion.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

None

The meeting adjourned at approximate 1:55 p.m.