

**MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE  
4201 PATTERSON AVENUE  
BALTIMORE, MD 21215**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2020  
1:00 p.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Thomas Ingegno, L.Ac., DACM, Chair, Sheryl Hongsermeier, L.Ac., RN, Vice Chair, Brandie Armijo, L.Ac., LPN, BSN, DACM, Sherrie Black, L.Ac., RN, Esq., Barbara Huston, Consumer, Bonnie Miranda, Consumer

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Peter Marinakis

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

**VISITORS:**

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

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

Dr. Ingegno called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF JULY 14, 2020 MINUTES**

Ms. Miranda moved to approve the Minutes with minor changes and Ms. Huston seconded the motion. The members of the Board unanimously approved the motion.

**1. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE**

Ms. Heisler recommended that the Board's concerns regarding patient care and the proper standards of practice during community acupuncture treatments be addressed in the Board's annual newsletter. Ms. Black stated that it should be stated in the newsletter that privacy must be maintained. Dr. Armijo stated that a meeting one-on-one should be conducted prior to going into an open area for treatment. Dr. Marinakis had stated that his concerns lied with the intake examination, confidentiality, medical history, complete diagnosis and treatment in which patients were unable to communicate due to others in the area. He made mention that most of the community acupuncture centers are closed now due to COVID, but if and when they were to reopen, that the Board has defined these concerns and that procedures in place. Dr. Marinakis stated that another concern is how to reimburse a patient who has prepaid for 10 treatments and only received 5. He does not want people to get the wrong impression about what an acupuncture treatment entails. Dr. Marinakis is concerned that there is no list of those that are currently providing community acupuncture. Dr. Armijo agreed that an article in the newsletter

would be a good idea as well. She stated that if you google community style acupuncture in Maryland, you will locate about 10 providers.

## **2. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. NEWSLETTER**

Ms. Heisler asked the Board to review and provide suggestions or corrections on the draft annual newsletter. Dr. Armijo recommended that the Community Acupuncture article be restructured according to the Board's discussion today. Ms. Heisler stated that she will update the newsletter and send it to the Board in a PDF format for final approval.

### **B. SOAP NOTE DOCUMENT FOR WEBSITE**

Ms. Heisler asked the Board to review the template of a SOAP note document that was prepared by Dr. Armijo and thanked her for an outstanding job. The Board approved the template and Ms. Heisler will ensure that the form will be uploaded on the Board's website.

### **C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Ms. Heisler informed the Board that the State of Emergency is still in effect and that the public is still not allowed in the building. She stated that she and Ms. Dobbins continue to telework and rotate coming into the office.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.