

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on May 18, 2017, in Room 110 of the DHMH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. John Sloan called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. Present for the quorum were Mr. John Cummins, Dr. Ronald Kaplan, Ms. Tinita Kearney, Ms. Billie Jo O'Donovan, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. George Sheckells, Mr. John Sloan, Ms. Ellen Stein, and Dr. Heather Weinreich.

Staff Present

Anthony DeFranco, AAG, Board Counsel
Christopher Kelter, Executive Director
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III
Danielle Vallone, Board Investigator
Kristen Neville, DHMH

Absent Members

Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole
Ms. Jillian DeLuca
Dr. Scott London
Mr. John Rouse

Mr. Kelter introduced Ms. Tinita Kearney to the Board and staff as the newest speech-language pathologist Board member.

Agenda Approval

Ms. O'Donovan made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item F made by Mr. Kelter due to it being a duplicate of item E. Item G is now item F. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for April, 2017

Ms. O'Donovan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Sheckells seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Regulatory Review

None

Executive Director's Report

MSHA Convention

Mr. Kelter and Mr. Sloan attended the Maryland Speech Hearing Association Convention on Friday, April 28, 2017. A brief summary of the conference was provided. Mr. Kelter noted that there was a discussion with the Maryland Speech-Language Hearing Association regarding a more collaborative effort to communicate with speech-language pathologists in the future.

Criminal History Records Check Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he has moved forward with the last effort of communication via letter to all licensees that have not completed the criminal history records check requirement in order to renew their license.

2017 AUD and SLP Renewal – CE Audit for SLPs

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that online renewals have been updated and that there are some renewal candidates remaining in the queue, most of whom are audit candidates that have not yet submitted continuing education documentation.

Board Membership Update

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the vacant speech-language pathologist position with the Board has now been filled with Dr. Tinita Kearney. He also informed the Board that the audiologist member position that is currently occupied by Dr. Kaplan has a term that ends on June 30, 2017. Mr. Kelter noted that Dr. Kaplan has completed two four-year terms and is not eligible to be reappointed. Mr. Kelter noted that Kim Bennardi has advised the licensing boards that new appointments may not happen during the Summer. Accordingly, Dr. Kaplan will continue to serve as a Board member until a new audiology member has been appointed.

Treasurer's Report – Ronald Kaplan

Dr. Kaplan reported for the month of May 2017 the Board has available funds in the amount of \$83,791.00.

Petitions – Extension of Time to Complete CE Requirements

None

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month – Consideration of Revisions

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he will send the notification to each Board member on Monday, April 22, 2017. Each member needs to review the documents and send any recommendations to Mr. Kelter by Wednesday, May 24, 2017. Mr. Sloan gave a brief description of the notification in reference to swallowing. Dr. Robinson recommended the effect of swallowing and depression to be

included in the notification. The Board also had a brief discussion regarding dementia and hearing loss.

ASHA Request – S.670/H.R. 1652: Over-the –Counter Hearing Aid of 2017

Mr. Kelter gave a brief summary to the Board insuring that the health occupation boards are similar to the Board of AUD/HAD/SLP, whereas laws and regulations are in place. Mr. DeFranco suggested that Mr. Kelter talk to the Office of Governmental Affairs regarding the Board of Pharmacy sharing a letter referencing out of country drugs being bought into the country. Mr. DeFranco informed the Board that he is not sure if it has been done on a federal level but it has been done.

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that if they are asked how the Board feels about the pending federal legislation, they are to respond that the board takes no position at this time and suggest that any comments and/or concerns should be addressed to him.

Correspondence & FYI

None

Adjournment

Mr. Sheckells made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting. Ms. O'Donovan seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular session meeting pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, 10-508(a) Annotated Code of Maryland. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Sloan, SLP
Chair