

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on January 17, 2019, in Room 110 of the MDH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Regular Session Board meeting came to order at 4:10 p.m. Present for the quorum were Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole Mr. Kim Keller, Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. George Sheckells, Ms. Ellen Stein, Ms. Carolyn Stine:

Staff Present

Zoann C. Mouzone, Acting Executive Director
Carla Boyd, AAG, Board Counsel
David Bruce, Board Investigator

Absent Members

Mr. John Cummins
Ms. Jillian DeLuca
Dr. Tinita Kearney
Dr. Tam Nhu Nguyen
Dr. Carrie Nieman
Mr. John Rouse

Visitors

Kim Lang, Director of Health Occupations Boards and Commissions

Agenda Review and Approval for (January, 2019)

Mr. Sheckells made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The December 18, 2018 minutes will be available for review and approval at the February, 2019 meeting.

Regulatory Review

Establishment of Legislative Committee – SLP-A, Telehealth and Audiology Assistants.

Dr. Mertes emphasized the importance of the establishment of this committee to the Board members and encouraged members to participate.

Acting Executive Director’s Report

Call for Nominations for Board Positions

Dr. Mertes informed the Board members of the various Board member positions that are and will become available on the Board.

HAD Online Renewal in Progress

Ms. Mouzone inquired of the Board as to how they would prefer the review of the audits for renewal to be handled. The Board agreed to let Ms. Mouzone review the CEU audits for renewal of license.

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Speech Pathology Resource Page – Email from Kim Lang, Director of Health Boards and Commission

Dr. Lang informed the Board that she received an email with a suggested resource to add to the Board website. She encouraged the Board to review the website and to determine whether they would like for the resource page to be added to the Board website.

HB0022 – First Reader Bill – Email from Lillian Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator

Attorney Boyd shared with the board that HB0022 is in reference to the Criminal History Records Check (CHRC) and how the information should be used by the Board. The bill reduces the amount of time that an applicant's positive hit on their CHRC can be used during consideration of granting a license or not. Specifically, the Board can consider a positive hit on a CHRC from beyond seven years ago; however, cannot use it as the sole determination to issue or not issue a license. A discussion arose with the Board. Attorney Boyd informed the Board that if they have any questions or concerns that they should address them to Lillian Reese, Legislation Coordinator. Attorney Boyd also informed the Board that this bill would affect all Health Occupation Boards.

Conference Room Upgrades – Email from Terry Green, Building Manager

Kim Lang informed the Board of the Email from Terry Green, Building Manager regarding the upgrades to the conference rooms located in the 4201 Patterson Avenue building. The Board can focus on specifically one room in which conferences are held in. Mr. Keller would like to ask for an itemized list.

Board Meeting Exam dates

Ms. Mouzone informed the Board that hearing aid dispensers practical exams are usually held before the Board meeting quarterly in January, April, July and October. Mr. Sheckells informed the Board that he is willing to be flexible to proctor the exams.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report will be available at the February 18, 2019 meeting.

Chair Report

Phonak Demo - January 17, 2019

Dana, a representative from Phonak, gave a brief demonstration to the Board and answered questions regarding Phonak products and how the products could be of a benefit the Board.

Chrome Books

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that she has talked with Linda Beyer, Fiscal Analyst regarding the chrome books and Ms. Beyer informed her that Henry Harle, IT Supervisor, would purchase the necessary chrome books for the Board. The chrome books are approximately \$150.00 each and the Board would need approximately fourteen chrome books.

Executive Director (ED) Hiring Date Update

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that the Department of Budget and Management posting for the ED position for the Board office closes the last week in January, 2019.

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Office Secretary III (OSIII) Hiring Date Update

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that the posting for the OS III position is still in progress.

2019 AHS Goals

Dr. Mertes shared with the Board some of the goals that she would like to have established with the Board. She would like to have committees such as the disciplinary/complaint committee, the licensing committee, the continuing education committee, the legislation committee functioning with a rotating schedule for the Board members to participate. She would like for the Boards website to be continuously updated with changes as they arise.

Board and Commissions Chairs meeting with Secretary Neall on January 2, 2019

Dr. Mertes gave the Board a brief summary of the meeting with Secretary Neall; a couple of the topics talked about were customer service goals and piloting a system that will track inquiries through the IQ System.

Correspondence & FYI

Financial Disclosure Forms

Attorney Boyd informed the Board members that Financial Disclosure Forms are due by April 30, 2019. If the Boards members have questions regarding the form they will need to contact the Ethics Commission

Maryland.gov Email Address

Dr. Mertes informed the Board members that they will be assigned a maryland.gov email address for Board purposes only and once assigned the email address they will have thirty days to activate their maryland.gov email address.

Next Board Meeting – February 21, 2019

Adjournment

Ms. Robinson made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Board meeting. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.
Chair