

The regular session emergency meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on March 30, 2020, via teleconference. The emergency session Board meeting came to order at 4:25 p.m. Present for the quorum via teleconference call were Dr. Tam Nguyen, Dr. Tinita Kearney, Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, Mr. John Rouse, Ms. Carolyn Stine and Mr. Kim Keller.

Staff Present

Candace G. Robinson, Executive Director
Bethan Haaga, AAG Board Counsel
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III

Absent Members

Mr. John Cummins
Ms. Ellen Stein
Mr. George Sheckells
Ms. Jillian DeLuca
Dr. Carrie Nieman

Absent Staff

Monica Wright, Office Secretary III

Visitors

None

Agenda Review and Approval for March 30, 2020

Dr. Tinitia Kearny made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Tam Nguyen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Regulatory Review

NONE

Executive Director's Report – Dr. Candace G. Robinson

Dr. Robinson reported on the status of the hearing aid dispenser (HAD) vacancies (2). There is one HAD so far that had indicated to the President of the Hearing Society for Maryland, Mr. Jim Orban, that they might be applying. The deadline has been extended to April 11, 2020 by Kim Bennardi with the office of appointments. George has agreed to stay on the Board in a HAD seat until another one is appointed. Dr. Robinson will be sending an email blast to all Hearing Aid Dispensers as well, reminding them of the opportunities available to serve on the Board.

Treasurer's Report - Dr. Candace Robinson

Dr. Robinson was able to speak with our fiscal officer Linda Beyer regarding the renewal fees. It was indicated that our budget is set by the legislature and that we need to keep our budget at a certain percent or we risk them taking money out our budget. Linda Beyer suggested that where our numbers are at this time, we should reduce renewal fees by 50.00 each. On line renewal opens up on April 1, 2020 and Dr. Robinson needs to let IT know what fees to plug into the system that will go live on April 1, 2020. Every licensee needs to pay a MD health commission fee which is \$26 dollars in additional to their license fee. Dr. Tinita Kearney made a motion to reduce the fess by \$50 dollars. Dr. Stacey Samules Cole seconded motion. The vote was unanimous.

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Chair Report- Dr. Jennifer Mertes
NONE

Committee Recommendation

Dr. Robinson reported we have a list of applications that need to be approved for March 30th. Dr. Tinita Kearney made motion to approve the licenses with complete applications in the Drive including those limited licensees with changes in supervision and/or location of limited licensure clinical placements. Ms. Carolyn Stine seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Next Board Meeting – April 16, 2020

Adjournment

Ms. Carolyn Stine made a motion to adjourn the emergency regular session of the Board meeting. Dr. Tinita Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular emergency session meeting was adjourn at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.
Chair