

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on April 16, 2020, via teleconference. The regular session Board meeting came to order at 4:14 p.m. Present for the quorum were Mr. John Cummins, Ms. Jillian DeLuca Dr. Tinita Kearney, Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Dr. Carrie Nieman, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. George Sheckells, Ms. Carolyn Stine, Mr. Kim Keller and Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole.

Staff Present

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

Absent Members

Ms. Ellen Stein

Absent Staff

David Bruce, Investigator

Visitors

Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator

Agenda Review and Approval for April, 2020

Ms. Jillian DeLuca made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. John Cummins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for April, 2020

Dr. Tinita Kearney made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment of the correction in the spelling of her name in one section. Mr. Kim Keller seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes Review and Approval for March 30, 2020 Emergency Board Meeting

Mr. George Sheckells made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Carolyn Stine seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Regulatory Review

Dr. Robinson stated that Lillian Reese provided a timeline of May 22, 2020 to submit a concept paper for changes to statutes and/or regulations to the Office of Governmental Affairs.

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

We have interest in the two hearing aid dispenser (HAD) vacancies. No one has submitted an application as of yet. Kim Bennardi with the Office of Appointments has forwarded candidates for the speech-language pathology vacancy to the Governor's office for vetting.

Dr. Robinson brought up the need to have a plan for providing the Practical HAD exam. She offered to establish an examination that would demonstrate oral competency, as stated in our regulations. Mr. George Sheckells and Mr. Kim Keller indicated that they would be happy to come in and give the HAD exams once they are allowed back in the building, even if it is in on days other than the typically scheduled times each quarter. Dr. Robinson stated that the Board will hold for an alternate plan for a couple of months and then revisit an alternative plan if the building is still not open to the public.

Treasurer's Report - Dr. Candace G. Robinson

Dr. Robinson reported that she updated the open minutes from last month's Board meeting with the budget as of the end of February. We do not have the updated budget report for the end of March yet from Linda Beyer.

Chair Report- Dr. Jennifer Mertes

Dr. Mertes informed the Board that after our last meeting in March, when the Board requested that we obtain more information from Donna Seidel regarding the timelines for consulting with our Board on the legislative process for making changes to statutes and/or regulations, Ms. Seidel declined to work with us.

Review for Committee List of CEU'S and Licensee

The CEU committee made a recommendation to approve all group sponsored events submitted in April though disapproved the two individual requests. Mr. Kim Keller made a motion to approve the CEUs submitted for April, with the exception of the two individual requests, until they could provide an agenda to explain the 5 hour CEU request for iPad learning. Mr. George Sheckells seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Correspondence & F.Y.I

Dr. Robinson, reported she may be unable to move forward with the hiring process, due to the hiring freeze. The department of budget management will review the need for the position and determine whether or not we can move forward on continuing with the interview process.

Next Board Meeting – May 21, 2020

Adjournment

Mr. John Cummins made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Board meeting. Mr. George Sheckells seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting ended at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mertes, Au.D.
Chair