

Friday, March 18, 2022

The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice

Chairperson: Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L

Via Google Hangout

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES

In Attendance

Members of the Board

Chairperson.....Wanda Banks
Vice Chairperson.....Dan Martin
Secretary.....E.J. Quinn
OTA Member.....Sarah Quirk
Consumer Member.....Marylin Pierre

Staff

Executive Director.....Lauren Murray
Board Counsel.....Joshua Frazer
Compliance Officer.....Denise Goetz

Guests

Legislative Liaison.....Lillian Reese
NBCOT Representative.....Vanessa Hughes

Members Absent

OT Member.....Rae-Ann Smith
OT Member.....Gabrielle Gelfen

In Attendance:

1. Ms. Banks called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.
2. Ms. Banks asked for approval of March General Session Agenda. Ms. Murray asked to add Network and Implicit Bias under Administrative Reports, COMAR 10.46.02 Code of Ethics, HB1231, SB 77 and SB 230 under Legislation/Regulations, and report from Ms. Hughes under Announcements. Ms. Quirk made a motion to approve with amendments. Mr. Martin seconded it. All were in favor.
3. Ms. Banks asked for approval of February General Session Minutes. Ms. Quirk made a motion to approve. Mr. Martin seconded it. All were in favor.
4. Ms. Banks asked for approval of ratification of 35 OTs and 9 OTAs. Ms. Pierre made a motion. Ms. Quirk seconded it. All were in favor.

REPORTS

1. Administrative Reports – FY'22

Staff: Lauren Murray

- a. Medicaid Provider Services Request for Data
 - i. Ms. Murray reached out to Medicaid Provider Services (MPS) to ask what information they would need.
 - ii. Ms. Murray shared the list that MPS sent, which included name, license number and dates, date of birth, and full address.
 - iii. Ms. Murray suggested that she bring this up when she meets with the network reconnection committee because with their new rules, she is not sure if it would be allowed.
 - iv. Ms. Murray asked if the Board felt comfortable sharing this information if the network reconnection committee agrees.
- b. Renewal Postcards
 - i. Renewal postcards were sent out on March 7th.
 - ii. Any licensees whose postcards that were sent back as undeliverable were charged the \$50 fee for failing to change their address.
 - iii. Licensees cannot renew until the \$50 fee is paid.
- c. Network
 - i. Ms. Murray reviewed the Network Reconnection Agreement with the Board.
 1. In the agreement, it indicates that the Board cannot share allow Medicaid Provider Services to connect to through the network.
 2. Ms. Murray explained that due to the cost of leaving the network, the Board most likely will need to join and sign the agreement.
 - ii. Ms. Murray asked Mr. Frazer why the Physicians Board is writing a letter of concern.
 1. Mr. Frazer said that the Physicians Board is concerned about the local IT staff and local administrator privileges.
 2. The Board will discuss the agreement again once the letter is complete.
- d. Implicit Bias
 - i. Ms. Murray plans to send out another bulletin this afternoon regarding implicit bias because there is a great deal of confusion.
 - ii. Ms. Murray noted that there are two big issues:
 1. There is not always a way to show proof of completion.
 2. While the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities originally claimed that they would approve courses not on the provided list, licensees have been told that the Board needs to approve courses.
 - iii. Ms. Murray made two suggestions to remedy this:
 1. As the bill says that the implicit bias course must be attested to and that proof of completion is not necessary, Ms. Murray suggested that licensees only attest to completion on the renewal form.
 2. If licensees are audited, then they would need to provide the name of the course.

3. If licensees want to use a course that is not on the list, then they would need to have proof of completion if they are audited.
- iv. Ms. Murray asked Ms. Reese if this needs to be completed every renewal cycle or only once.
 1. Ms. Reese said that it only needs to be completed once.

2. Legislation/Regulations Committee –

Sarah Quirk, COTA/L

Marylin Pierre, Esquire, Consumer Member

Staff: Lauren Murray

e. Legislative Update

- i. SB 899
 1. The bill received an unfavorable report from the Senate Committee, making it unlikely to move forward.
- ii. HB 1130
 1. Ms. Murray asked for an update from Ms. Reese
- iii. COMAR 10.46.02 Code of Ethics
 1. This regulation addition will most likely be in the Maryland Register on March 25, 2022 and should be effective on April 4, 2022.
- iv. SB 230
 1. This has passed through the Senate with amendments, and it is now being read by the House.
 2. Ms. Murray shared the amendments.
- v. HB 1231
 1. Ms. Quirk asked that the Board be in support of this bill if it makes it to the Senate.
 2. Ms. Reese will inform the Board if the bill goes to a Senate committee.
- vi. SB 77
 1. Ms. Murray uploaded two documents to Dropbox: one a copy of SB 77 with amendments, and the other a letter of concern from many of the other Boards.
 2. Ms. Murray asked if the Board has the same concern and would like to be included on the letter.
 - a. The Board voted to join the letter. Mr. Quinn made a motion. Ms. Quirk seconded it. All were in favor.

3. Continuing Education Committee –

Sarah Quirk, COTA/L

Rae-Ann Smith, OT/R

Staff: Denise Goetz

4. Secretary's Report

E.J. Quinn, Consumer Member, Secretary

- a. Next month, Ms. Gelfen will be added to committees.

5. Executive Committee--
Wanda Banks, MA, OTR/L
Daniel Martin, Ph.D.
Staff: Lauren Murray

- a. From March 14, 2022: An OT with BCBS credentials is being asked to cosign all other OTs' notes and evaluations (even when she has not seen the patients) while the facility is being credentialed.
a. As this is an insurance issue, it is outside of the Board's jurisdiction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Gabrielle Gelfen is joining the Board as a new OT member.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Financial Disclosure Forms are due by April 30, 2022.
B. Ms. Hughes spoke about the NBCOT Ambassador Program.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.