State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners

Open Session Minutes
December 8, 2017
Metro Executive Building
4201 Patterson Ave, Room 106
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Board Members:
Denise Capaci, Professional Member, Chair
Joyce Bell, Professional Member, Vice Chair
Aimee Williams, Professional Member, Secretary/Treasurer
Angela Anderson-Smith, Consumer Member (absent)
Nicholette Smith-Bligen, Professional Member
Sherryl Silberman, Professional Member (absent)
Karen Richards, Professional Member
Gerard Farrell, Consumer Member
Letha Moszer, Professional Member
Mary Sayres, Professional Member
Wrenn Skidmore, Professional Member

Board Staff:
Stanley E. Weinstein, Executive Director
Ari S. Elbaum, AAG, Board Counsel
Rhonda Edwards, AAG, New Board Counsel
Kara Brooks-Tyson, Director, Compliance and Investigations
Gail Wowk, Director, Planning and Continuing Education
Gloria Jean Hammel, Director, Certification and Licensing
Tyrone Willoughby, Social Work Supervisor
Njeri Clay, Staff Social Worker
Donna Ridgell, Administrative Aide

Guests:
Kimberly C. Lang, Ph.D., Associate Director, Health Workforce, MDH
Sharon Bloom, Executive Assistant, Health Occupation
Boards and Commissions, DHMH
Daphne McClellan, Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter
Jamie Wilson, The Children’s Guild
Robert Anderson, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services
Arthur Flax, Social Worker
Seante Hatcher, University of Maryland School of Social Work
Gisele Ferretto, University of Maryland School of Social Work
Samara Stone, The Stone Foundation
CALL TO ORDER
The Open Session was called to order at 10:35 A.M. by Ms. Denise Capaci, Board Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Minutes from November 3, 2017 Board meeting was approved – 7 unanimously

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
None

BOARD CHAIR

Denise Capaci

- Denise Capaci noted that all licensed social workers were sent draft copies of new regulations being considered. They were invited to come to the Board meeting to express their thoughts, concerns and recommendations. Nine attendees came forward to speak to the Board. The written responses were placed on the Boards website under “Board Meeting” 12/08/2017 for public review.
- Denise Capaci informed the Board of a change in Board Counsel. Ari Elbaum will be leaving to take a position in The Behavioral Health Administration and our new Board counsel is Rhonda Edwards. She wished Mr. Elbaum well and thank him for his years of service to the Board. She welcomed Ms. Edwards to the Board.
- Denise Capaci informed the Board that Joyce Bell was elected to the ASWB Board of Directors. She congratulated her and wished her well.
- Denise Capaci turned the meeting over to Stanley E. Weinstein for his Executive Director’s Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stanley E. Weinstein

- Stanley E. Weinstein discussed how moving along with technology, the Board will be providing online license application services. Tentatively sometime after January 2018, students who are applying for their LBSW and LMSW will be able to apply online and also pay the fee associated with the licensure online. All universities and colleges will be made aware of this new innovative process. Future plans will be made to accommodate all levels.
- Stanley E. Weinstein discussed how the Board has been without a permanent investigator due to health reasons. Due to the volume of new complaints and the time line in receiving and resolving the complaints Stanley Weinstein has requested an
additional permanent Health Investigator position. If we are unable to get a permanent position, the Board will apply for a contractual position.

- Stanley Weinstein discussed how licensees for the 2017 Random Audit for continuing education have already been selected. 10% of submitted renewals will be audited. Out of the 700 licensees, 55 will be receiving their 2nd audit and 4 will be receiving their 3rd audit.

- Kristen Neville, Legislation and Regulations Specialist have given her resignation and will be missed by the Board. She has moved on and is currently working for the National Office of Occupational Therapy Association Inc., located in Bethesda, Maryland. This position is now vacant.

- Stanley Weinstein stated that DSW Programs are being developed nationwide with the focus more towards practices. BSWE statute does not allow this level of licensure. There are currently 17 schools with DSW Programs, but all require an MSW to be admitted so no change is necessary.

- Stanley Weinstein discussed the Opioid Epidemic and the availability of Naloxone to the public. He spoke to the VA about individuals carrying and distributing Naloxone. Board statute does not allow this activity. However, Maryland has established the Office of Overdose Programs. An organization may apply to become an accredited program which would allow employees to carry and distribute. The VA was informed about this program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statute and Regulations Committee

Joyce Bell, Chair

Dr. Joyce Bell reported how the committee appreciated all concerns and will be holding their next meeting on January 8, 2017

Continuing Education Committee

Karen Richards, Chair

Karen Richards had no report

REMINDER OR REQUEST

None

The Open Session adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

Aimee Williams, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer

Stanley H. Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C
Executive Director

Date: 4/16/18