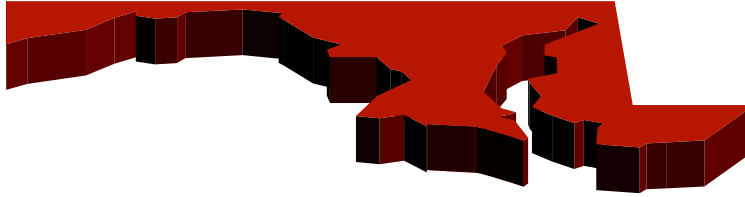


State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners



**Open Session Minutes
June 9, 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 (absent)
Mark Lannon	Professional Member
Angela Anderson-Smith	Consumer Member
Deborah Ramelmeier	Professional Member
Sherryl Silberman	Professional Member
Karen Richards	Professional Member
Gerard Farrell	Consumer Member
Letha Moszer	Professional Member (absent)
Mary Sayres	Professional Member (arrived 10:55 AM)
Wrenn Skidmore	Professional Member

Board Staff:

Stanley E. Weinstein	Executive Director (absent)
Ari S. Elbaum	AAG, OAG, Board Counsel
Gail Wowk	Director, Planning and Continuing Education
Gloria Jean Hammel	Director, Certification and Licensing
Kara Tyson	Director, Compliance and Investigations
Tyrone Willoughby	Social Work Supervisor
Njeri Clay	Staff Social Worker
Deborah Evans	Continuing Education Supervisor

Guests:

Brandon Wright	Associate Director, Health Occupation Boards and Commissions, DHMH
Sharon Bloom	Executive Assistant, Health Occupation Boards and Commissions, DHMH
Daphne McClellan	Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter

CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session was called to order at 10:20 A.M. by Ms. Denise Capaci, Board Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 12, 2017 minutes were approved – 8 Yes, 1 Abstain

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Announcement: Discussion on DHMH Board Identification Badges at the end of this Session.

BOARD CHAIR

Denise Capaci

- Since Stanley Weinstein, Executive Director, was absent, Denise Capaci combined all discussion items under her leadership.
- Board Recognition of Debbie Ramelmeier's contribution to the Board during her eight year tenure. She was presented with a plaque from the Board. In addition, she was thanked for her invaluable service to the Board and the Social Work profession.
- Denise Capaci presented Gail Wowk with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's plaque recognizing her for 35 years of public service within the Department. On behalf of the Board and staff, Denise Capaci thanked Gail Wowk for what she has accomplished while working at the Board.
- Discussion held on the composition of the Board Committees. Rotation on the DCRC Committee was discussed at a previous meeting. Two Board Members will rotate in July and other changes will be finalized today after she has an opportunity to discuss and confirm.
- Board Counsel Discussion – Ari Elbaum and Denise Capaci. Discussion continued on the format and posting of certain information around licensee sanctions. Two formats were reviewed again and Board Members requested that two templates be presented at the July Board Meeting for final vote.

Licensees that are sanctioned such as suspension or probation should remain on the list until their Orders are lifted (running list).

Also need language to instruct viewers on how to review list.

Board Members agreed to continue to link to the Public Orders/Disciplinary Actions web page within the Newsletter.

The 2017 Fall Newsletter will start with information from new Public Orders dated January 1, 2017 to present and the running list.
- Current Board Staffing. All positions filled except for the Continuing Education vacancy.
- July 1, 2017 Board Listing. Sherryl Silberman and Gerard Farrell have been re-appointed by Governor Larry Hogan for another four year term. Staff will update master contact list for the next meeting.

Denise Capaci stated that even though Board emails are encrypted, if sent to one's work email address, other individuals may obtain access. She wanted everyone to be aware.
- The new DHR representative will begin her term on July 1, 2017. Nicholette Smith-Bligen was chosen on the recommendation of the Secretary of DHR.
- Recent Communications with Licensees. Three email communications were sent:

HB 1183/SB 986 – enrolled bill

Reduction of Licensure Fees in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019

2017 Spring Newsletter

Gloria Hammel stated that she has received emails around the language in HB 1183/SB 986.

There is major confusion around the three years and independent practice. Licensing requirements are being developed now and will clarify concerns and questions from the licensees. Daphne McClellan, Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter, discussed the LGSW will no longer be in private practice as of July 1, 2020. However, they may join a larger practice.

Gloria Hammel confirmed that there is no grandfathering clause or grace period. The Statute and Regulations Committee will be meeting on Monday, June 12, 2017.

- Applications for Licensure since January 1, 2017. Gloria Hammel discussed the attachment with current data.
- State Stat. Tabled until July when Stanley Weinstein will discuss the attachment.
- Discussion on Whether to Form a Workgroup for a Jurisprudence Examination. Sherryl Silbermans stated that she supports the development of this Exam. The regulations are complex and licensees would be better prepared and educated as to the scope of their practice. It may also reduce the number of complaints received. The consensus is that it would be required as part of the licensure process. Karen Richards discussed the presentation at the recent ASWB Conference by Texas. The exam is used for new applicants and licensees transferring from other states. More information will be gathered from them and the seven Maryland Boards listed in the attachment. Denise Capaci asked Karen Richards to chair this workgroup with details to be worked out.

These discussions lead to how to get the word out about the Exam to the Maryland schools and universities. Who should be contacted at the schools to send a message out to the students?

Joyce Bell suggested the Director of Undergraduate and Graduate Programs. Also, the school's website and the Council of Social Work Education.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statute and Regulations Committee

Joyce Bell, Chair

Joyce Bell stated that the Statute and Regulations Committee will be meeting this Monday, June 12, 2017, at 10:00 AM. They will be setting priorities and deadlines as well as developing strategies to accomplish them.

Continuing Education Committee

Karen Richards, Chair

Karen Richards stated that the Committee will be meeting today after the Board Meeting. Continuing professional competency and the jurisprudence exam will be discussed.

Credentialing Committee

Joyce Bell brought up this Committee and its review of applications. She stated that since the new encryption system has been put in place, the readability of the materials sent is difficult. She asked what could be done to correct this issue. Staff will look into this matter and report back to the Committee Members.

Sherryl Silberman asked about transparency around the Committees and their work. An example is the AD HOC Board Committee which is comprised of leadership and Committee Chairs. Denise Capaci stated the second meeting was canceled and the first meeting was reported on at a previous Open Session meeting. It was agreed that all Board Members will continue to be informed about the important work of each Committee.

REMINDER OR REQUEST

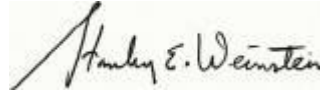
It came to the Board staff's attention that two Board Members have Identification Badges that will expire on June 30, 2017. All Members reviewed their expiration dates and information was collected on the need for several replacements. List will be given to Stanley Weinstein for follow up.

The Open Session adjourned at 11:10 A.M.



Aimee Williams, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer

_07-14-2017_____
Date



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

_07-14-2017_____
Date