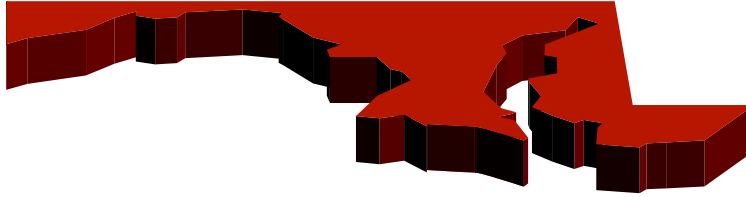


State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners



**Open Session Minutes
March 10, 2017
Metro Executive Building
4201 Patterson Ave, Room 110
Baltimore, Maryland 21215**

Board Members:

Denise Capaci	Professional Member, Chair
Joyce Bell	Professional Member, Vice Chair
Aimee Williams	Professional Member, Secretary/Treasurer
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
Mary Sayres	Professional Member
Wrenn Skidmore	Professional Member

Board Staff:

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

Guests:

Daphne McClellan	Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter
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CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session was called to order at 11:00 A.M. by Ms. Denise Capaci, Board Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 13, 2017 minutes were approved - 11 Yes, 1 Absent

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

BOARD CHAIR

Denise Capaci

- Update on Legislative Hearings held on SB 986 and HB 1183 this week. The Board took a Support with Amendments position which was distributed by email. Stanley Weinstein summarized both bill hearings and the testimony provided by the Board, NASW-Maryland Chapter, Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition and other speakers. The Board discussed the proposed changes and the testimony provided. The Board still supports the concept of conducting a summer study this year with a focus on specific language and submitting a report next year to the General Assembly.
Joyce Bell supported Stanley Weinstein's summary and added additional comments.
- Discussion held on posting the names of licensees that have been sanctioned in future newsletters. In 2013, this practice was discontinued for several reasons. However, each newsletter continues to list the link to the Board's website to review licensees that received public reprimands. Ari Elbaum stated that legally this practice is permissible.
These postings are looked upon as a way to learn about the decisions and types of disciplinary actions taken by the Board. The Board takes each case very seriously and felt that posting this information is another way to reach licensees. Follow up at next Board Meeting.
- Board Counsel Information provided by Ari Elbaum, A.A.G., will be deferred today to the Administrative Session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stanley E. Weinstein

- Adoption Sub-Committee Report. The Sub-Committee meeting was held on February 15, 2017. The Board Members in attendance were Joyce Bell, Gerard Farrell, and Deborah Ramelmeier along with Stanley Weinstein, Ari Elbaum, and past Board Member, Judy Levy. Aimee Williams sent a written report. The Department of Human Resources (DHR) policy was discussed. Employed social workers may adopt within their guidelines. Stanley Weinstein stated that Frederic Reamer referred him to the Casey Family Services Article.
Committee supports allowing for adoption if there are extraordinary circumstances under the MD Code of Ethics. Committee recommends the use of a social work expert with DHR knowledge to conduct the investigation.
Ari Elbaum and Stanley Weinstein will develop regulations
Debbie Ramelmeier will develop a flow chart to capture necessary steps for such an investigation.
Denise Capaci thanked the Committee Members.
- Update was provided on the status of the CEU Proposed Regulations. Staff has been working with the Department's Office of Regulations and Policy Coordination to finalize submission. Formatting changes recommended and accepted.
- Spring 2017 Newsletter. Articles were requested from Board Members. Please send to Gail Wowk by April 17, 2017.
- Update on Board Staffing. The status on the vacant Administrative Aide position was discussed. Stanley Weinstein described the personnel process and the many aspects of hiring. Even though staff has been out on medical leave, staff has stepped up to keep all of the Board's activities/functions moving forward.

- Update on On-Line Applications. Previous contracts with other Boards were explored but have now been put on hold. Stanley Weinstein just signed a contract for \$4,000 with a private vendor to develop the paperless application system. The Board of Physical Therapy is currently utilizing a very similar system from the same vendor. At this time, a projected date of completion is May 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statute and Regulations Committee

Joyce Bell, Chair

No Additional Report.

- Joyce Bell announced that the next meeting of the Board Statute and Regulations Committee will be held on March 13, 2017.

Continuing Education Committee

Karen Richards, Chair

Karen Richards stated that Board staff continues to work on the following:

- Proposed Continuing Education regulations as mentioned earlier.
- Provisional Sponsors Questionnaire – Second request letters have been mailed.
- 2016 Continuing Education Audit - ASWB finalizing audits.
- Today's meeting has been canceled. The Committee will meet in April with the date to be determined.
- The upcoming ASWB spring national conference will focus on continuing education. Stanley Weinstein will be submitting Karen Richards and Gail Wowk's applications to the Department for out-of-state approval. Stanley Weinstein has already been approved. Denise Capaci stressed to the Board the importance of attending the ASWB conferences and trainings.

Denise Capaci spoke on the first meeting held with the Committee Chairs using the on-line Go –To-Meeting system. Agenda was posted on-line and Denise Capaci typed in notes while Members were discussing each agenda item. At the end of the meeting, the document was emailed to all attendees. Stanley Weinstein will look into the cost to use this technology for future meetings.

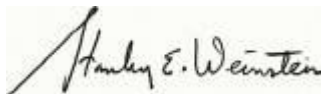
REMINDER OR REQUEST

None

The Open Session adjourned at 11:45 A.M.



Aimee Williams, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer



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

____04/14/2017_____
Date

____04/14/2017_____
Date