State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners

Open Session Minutes
September 14, 2018
Metro Executive Building
4201 Patterson Ave, Room 110
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

******************************************************************************

******************************************************************************

Board Members:

Sherryl Silberman
Wretn Skidmore
Karen Richards
Angela Anderson-Smith
Denise Capacita
Donald J. List
Aimee Williams
Gerard Farrell
Letha Moszer
Mary L. Sayres
Jamie Wilson

Professional Member, Chair
Professional Member, Vice Chair
Professional Member, Secretary/Treasurer
Consumer Member
Professional Member
Professional Member
Professional Member (absent)
Consumer Member
Professional Member
Professional Member
Professional Member

Board Staff:

Stanley E. Weinstein
Rhonda Edwards
Gail Wowk
Gloria Jean Hammel
Tyrone Willoughby
Njeri Clay
Donna Ridgell
Stacie Rigby

Executive Director
OAG, Board Counsel
Director, Planning and Continuing Education
Director, Certification and Licensing
Social Work Supervisor
Staff Social Worker
Administrative Aide
Continuing Education Aide

Guest:

Sharon Bloom
Daphne McClellan

Executive Assistant, Health Occupation Boards and Commissions, DHMH
Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter
CALL TO ORDER:

The Open Session was called to order at 10:32 A.M. by Sherryl Silberman, Board Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from August 10, 2018 Board meeting was approved – 10 -Yes, 1 - Abstain

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Announcement: None

BOARD CHAIR

- Sherryl Silberman informed the public that index cards were available for questions that could be addressed by the Board
- The floor was open for discussion on how to plan for Strategic Planning by the Board. After much input from fellow board members it was agreed, the two major focuses would be on mobility and the jurisprudence examination. It was further agreed there would be a minimum one day offsite retreat to be facilitated by an outside consultant. Stanley Weinstein and Sherryl Silberman will look into it and report findings to the Board.
- Sherryl Silberman gave a summary from her meeting with Secretary Robert R. Neall and Chief Operating Officer Dennis Schrader. It was reported that the Governor is very interested in providing good customer service to our constituents and was very pleased with the feedback he has been receiving as to how customer service is improving. Ms. Silberman noted the importance of having Board members take the Open Meeting Act online training. If there are any Board members who still need to take this training please see Sherryl to receive the website.
- Sherryl Silberman reminded Board members about their annual financial disclosures and how 90 days prior to Board members tenures ending another financial disclosure is requested. Stanley Weinstein shared there will be three seats available on next year; (1) MSW and (2) LCSW-Cs. Interested parties can apply through the Governor’s office.
- Meetings were held with board staffers Gloria Jean Hammel, Director, Certification and Licensing Unit and Gail Wowk, Director of Planning and Continuing Education along with their team members. Sherryl Silberman learned the daily workload of these units and how social workers are receiving one on one professional customer service from these experts who provide friendly customer service. Her plans are to meet with Kara Brooks-Tyson, Director of Compliance and her team in the near future.
- A reminder was given by Sherryl Silberman that most emails are confidential and if you are sending or responding to emails that are not confidential to please use regular email.
- Sherryl Silberman shared ASWB will be holding their Delegate Assembly Meeting on November 13th-15th, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas. Denise Capaci will be attending. If any Board members would like to attend please see Stanley Weinstein.

Executive Director Report

- Stanley Weinstein introduced the Board’s first Student Internship Program recipient Camille Ochoa. Ms. Ochoa is a student at Coppin State University. She will be supervised by Tyrone Willoughby Jr, Social Work Supervisor.

- Dr. Weinstein reported on 2 sets of Regulations being processed by the Board. The first set is 4 chapters related to changes from House Bill 1183. They have been approved by the Secretary, Governor and AELR committee. They are to be published in the Maryland Register on October 12, 2018. A blast email of this publication will be sent to all active and inactive social workers.

- The second set of Regulations are 5 chapters that were reviewed by board committees under the Regulatory Review Process. These Regulations are still in the Secretary’s office. These were held up over concerns with the section on teletherapy. The decision was to remove this section in hopes that they will be approved by the Secretary. The 3rd is the teletherapy Regulation which are being worked on in collaboration with other Health Occupation Boards and have not been approved by the Board.

- An explanation was given concerning the Unit of Measurement handout which consists of the number of licenses issued and the number of renewals.

- The Board’s shared costs for fiscal year 2020 included partial salaries of those employees who assist the Board such as Lillian Reese, Legislation and Regulations Specialist, Fiscal Officer Linda Beyer and additional IT services provided to the Board.

- Stanley Weinstein shared the Board is in compliance with the Management for Results report in the areas of how quickly we process applications and renewals however we are not in compliance in completing investigations within 180 days due to the lack of staff in the compliance unit. We are still in the process of trying to hire additional staff.

- Stanley Weinstein asked the Committee’s Board Chairs to present the following regulations for the Board’s review and vote in order to remain in compliance to the Regulatory Review and Evaluation Act. The vote was as follows:
  10.43.03 – 10 votes unanimously
  10.42.04 – 10 votes unanimously
  10.42.05 – 10 votes unanimously (no changes were made)
  10.42.07 – 10 votes, unanimously (no changes were made)
  10.42.06 – Questions were raised around Category II learning activities. Karen Richards stated the CEU committee will review and modify documents. The revised copy will be presented at the next board meeting for final vote.

- Tyrone Willoughby was asked to update the board on the progress of on-line applications. There were a few glitches however his team is working them out enabling social workers to continue the on-line process.
Statute and Regulations Committee
Wrenn Skidmore, Chair

Board chair previously discussed the regulations just waiting for public comments.

Continuing Education Committee
Karen Richards, Chair

Board chair shared the committee will be forming a jurisprudence exam subcommittee. The committee is also working on a list of training not approved by the Board. Several questions have been raised concerning animal therapy, the committee has decided to review and approve case by case. However, animal therapy has been flagged on the website. Board member Donald J. List will be joining the Continuing Education Committee.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE OPEN SESSION

The Open Session adjourned at 11:52 A.M.

Karen Richards, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer

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

Date 10/19/18

Date 10/19/18