

State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners



**Open Session Minutes
October 11, 2019
Metro Executive Building
4201 Patterson Ave, Room 110
Baltimore, Maryland 21215**

Board Members:

Sherryl Silberman	Professional Member, Chair
Wrenn Skidmore	Professional Member, Vice Chair
Karen Richards	Professional Member, Secretary/Treasurer
April Cockrell	Professional Member (Absent)
Martin P. Schnuit	Professional Member
Donald J. List	Professional Member
Gerard Farrell	Consumer Member
Letha Moszer	Professional Member
Jamie Wilson	Professional Member
Sondra G. Petty	Professional Member
Barbara Gassaway	Consumer Member
Susan P. Coppage	Professional Member

Board Staff:	Stanley E. Weinstein	Executive Director
	Rhonda Edwards	OAG, Board Counsel
	Gail Wowk	Director, Planning and Continuing Education
	Kara Brooks-Tyson	Director, Compliance and Investigations (Absent)
	Gloria Jean Hammel	Director of Certification and Licensing (Absent)
	Tyrone Willoughby Jr.	Social Work Supervisor
	Stacie Rigby	Continuing Education Aide
	Earnest A. Ford Sr.	Health Occupation Investigator (Absent)
	Donna Ridgell	Administrative Aide
	Lillian Reese	Legislation and Regulations Specialist (Absent)
	Anne Njoroge	Administrative Specialist/fiscal staff member

Guest:	Sean Augustus	Board Intern
---------------	---------------	--------------

CALL TO ORDER:

The Open Session was called to order at 10:49A.M. by Board Chair Sherryl Silberman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from September 13, 2019 were approved—10 votes unanimously, with corrections

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Stanley Weinstein introduced to the Board members, new staff member Anne Njoroge, Administrative Specialist/fiscal who will be responsible for paying the bills and handling all the fiscal matters for the Board.

BOARD CHAIR

Sherryl Silberman

- Sherryl Silberman introduced to the Board, Teresa F. Simmons, LCSW-C, Continuing Education Training and CEU Program Developer at the Salisbury State University. Teresa Simmons made a presentation about the CEU program at the Salisbury University. Ms. Simmons shared with the Board her official title as Program Manager for Child Adolescence Behavioral Health. She currently oversees grants, initiatives and CEU education for the Master's program. Teresa Simmons gave a brief history of her experiences while working for DSS for 19 years in Somerset County on the Eastern Shore where she realized that social workers had to commute to Baltimore Maryland in order to obtain their CEUs. Thus, she initiated a CEU program which was accessible and affordable where social workers and other professional could come and obtain their CEU's without the long commute. The CEU program started in 2001 with 7 CEU events and has now grown to 14 CEU events in 2018 with 518 attendees. She informed the Board that one way of ascertaining the needs of the social workers and other professionals was to provide a survey to access the needs of the clientele the providers were servicing.
- In addition, an advisory board was established which consist of members from surrounding counties on the Eastern Shore to discuss the needs, concerns and accomplishments and approval of presenters. The Board meets quarterly and is currently trying to build a pool of qualified presenters. Salisbury has 3 upcoming conferences in the spring of 2020 which include human trafficking, retirement and aging conference and child and adolescence mental health conference. The future goal is to have online CEU trainings. Exploring the possibility of global studies and other regions of the state.
- Sherryl Silberman stated Salisbury has a great model and suggested Ethics, Dual Relationships, HIPAA violations and Boarder Line Personalities training would be great additions.
- Stanley Weinstein suggested collaborating with other universities such as the University of Maryland and Morgan State University.
- Sherryl Silberman shared there will be 4 Board members who will not be attending the November Board meeting. In addition, if there is a Board member who is able to fill in for the DCRC

meeting which starts at 9:00 am as there is a need for another board member for the November DCRC meeting. Any Board member not attending November's meeting, should notify Sherryl Silberman since Stanley Weinstein will not be available to ensure the Board has a quorum.

- Sherryl Silberman informed the Board the Independent Practice forms are not yet reviewed. They will be finalized by the Statute and Regulations Committee and presented at the next Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Stanley Weinstein

- Stanley Weinstein informed the Board, every 3 years the legislative auditors conducted audits for all the health occupational boards. There are 2 Maryland Department of Health Legislative auditors in the building who will be auditing all Health Occupations Boards on how you handle money, ensuring that those who license social workers are not handling the money, how reconciliation is being handled and if there are any fraudulent activities regarding the handling of funds.
- A letter was presented to the Board indicating there were no known fraudulent activities of any kind on the Board of Social Work which was sent to the auditors
- Tyrone Willoughby gave an update on the Call-In project. He informed the Board after September's Board meeting decision to discontinue the Call-In project he received an email from Kennedy Krieger asking to continue the call-in project., which is now back on.
- The Teletherapy regulation was finalized and logged as of October 7, 2019 and an email blast was sent to all social workers. Since then Stanley Weinstein has been getting calls and questions on providing Teletherapy to clients. Example: Can Teletherapy be provided to a client if the client is out of state? The answer is, unless the social worker is given permission by the state in which the client is currently located then Teletherapy cannot be provided.
- Stanley Weinstein informed the Board as of today there are 2449 social workers who have renewed and 4026 who need to renew. The Board has received 96 applications for inactive status. Gail Wovk shared; she has informed social workers who have not met the CEU requirements for renewal, to go inactive and upon receipt of the required CEUs to then complete a reinstatement supplication.
- Directions were given to the Strategic Planning location to be held on Friday, October 18, 2019. As of today, Stanley Weinstein has not heard from the chosen facilitator. After the Board meeting a plan 'B' will be discussed with the strategic planning committee.
- A graph sent by ASWB on "Regulation Code of Conduct in relation to a Professional Association Code of Ethics" and a "Mobility Ready" model was distributed.
- Gail Wovk asked Board members to submit their articles for the Fall Newsletter. The deadline is October 15, 2019.

Statue and Regulations Committee

Wrenn Skidmore, Chair

Wrenn Skidmore informed the Board members the Committee met on last Friday and are currently focusing on reviewing the Statute. The committee was able to review a few sections and is making great progress.

Continuing Education Committee

Karen Richards, Chair

The committee held a discussion on a jurisprudence exam and after having a discussion with Stanley Weinstein a decision was made to table it. The committee also discussed the fines given to licensees who are audited and did not meet the CEU requirements. After much discussion the committee decided the fines given were fair. Other topics of discussions were topic and subjects that are eligible for CEU's and those that are not eligible such as listening to a podcast.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE OPEN SESSSION

The Open Session adjourned at 11:48 A.M.

**Karen Richards, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer**

Date



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

Date

1/10/20