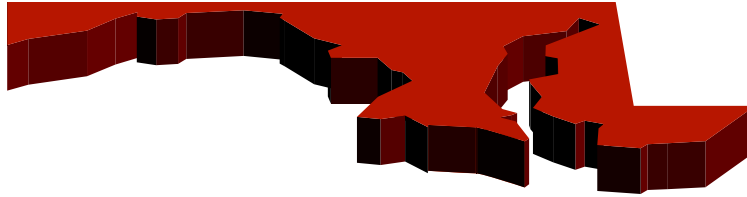


State of Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners



**Open Session Minutes
April 9, 2021, 10:30 AM
Teleconference Board Meeting**

Board Members: Via Telephone Call-In

Gerard Farrell	Consumer Member, Chair
Karen Richards	Professional Member, Vice Chair
Donald J. List	Professional Member, Secretary/Treasure
Sherryl Silberman	Professional Member
Adrienne Ekas Mueting	Professional Member
Allyson Stanton	Professional Member
Maria Cole	Professional Member
Sondra G. Petty	Professional Member
Barbara Gassaway	Consumer Member
Susan P. Coppage	Professional Member
April A. Cockrell	Professional Member
Martin P. Schnuit	Professional Member (absent)

Board Staff: Stanley E. Weinstein	Executive Director
Rhonda Edwards	OAG, Board Counsel
Lillian Reese	Legislation and Regulations Specialist
Kara Brooks-Tyson	Director of Compliance and Investigations
Gail Wowk	Director of Planning and Continuing Education
Gloria Jean Hammel	Director, Certification and Licensing Unit
Tyrone Willoughby	Board Social Work Supervisor
Donna Ridgell	Administrative Aide
Stacie Rigby	Continuing Education Associate

Guest: Kimberly B. Link	MDH Liaison to Board and Commissions
Wrenn Skidmore	Former Board Member
Dr. Daphne McClellan	Executive Director, NASW-MD Chapter

CALL TO ORDER:

The Open Session was called to order at 10:35 am by Board Chair Gerard Farrell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 12, 2021 Board Minutes - approved unanimously

ADJUSTMENT AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

News Letter Articles – Gail Wowk

BOARD CHAIR

Gerard Farrell

- Gerard Farrell opened the meeting by stating the Governor's order on extension of licensure renewals ends June 30, 2021. Dr. Weinstein will give more details in his executive report.
- Next week will be the last week for the General Assembly Legislative Session. Lillian Reese will be providing an update.
- Gerard Farrell shared he provided testimony at the House Committee hearing on the Temporary License Bill and Dr. Weinstein provided testimony at the Sub Committee Hearing
- The letter sent to the Capital Newspaper by Gerard Farrell was published and appeared in the March 31, 2021 edition.
- Gerard Farrell reminded the Board members that June 30, 2021 will be his last day as Board Chair. He requested the Board formalize the nominations of Karen Richards as the new Board Chair and Donald List as Vice Chair. A vote was held unanimously appointing Karen Richards as the new Board Chair effective July 1, 2021 and Donald List as Vice Chair. In addition the Board Secretary/Treasurer seat will need to be filled in order to complete the two year term. The Board members were asked to submit all Board Secretary/Treasury nominations to Dr. Stanley Weinstein.
- Gerard Farrell informed the members there are legislative matters presented to the Board, in which there is insufficient time permitted to present discussion at a full Board meeting. Therefore, a motion was made authorizing the Executive Committee of the Board to make formal decisions on behalf of the full Board, when issues/concerns required an immediate response. A vote was held unanimously authorizing the Executive Committee Board to make decisions on behalf of the full Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stanley E. Weinstein

- Dr. Stanley Weinstein asked Lillian Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator to give an update on the current Legislative Bills. Lillian Reese shared the following: The Legislative Session will be ending on April 12, 2021.
 - a) **HB 811/ SB 597 - State Board of Social Work Examiners – Practice Act**
This Bill has passed the Senate and will become effective on Oct 1, 2021
 - b) **HB 132 / SB 41 - Health & Mental and Emotional Disorders – Consent (Mental Health Access Initiative)** The House Bill has not been voted on. The Senate passed the Bill and will become effective on Oct 1, 2021

- c) **HB 344/SB 72 - Open Meetings Act – Requirements for State Agencies and Local Boards of Elections (Maryland Transparency Act of 2021)** This Bill was heard in February by both Committees however there has been no movement by either Committee. This Bill will not pass.
- d) **HB 537/SB 398 – Mental Health Law – Petitions for Emergency Evaluation-Procedures** This Bill was heard in February by both Committees. There was no movement by either Committee. This Bill will not pass.
- e) **HB 689/ SB 466 - Certificates for Involuntary Admission - Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors** This Bill has been amended by adding Professional Counselors. The Bill passed the House and the Senate and will become effective Oct 1, 2021.
- f) **HB 701 - Child Abuse and Neglect - Training of Health Care Professionals** There was a Senate hearing on March 30, 2021. The Bill has not been voted on by the Committee. Awaiting the results.
- g) **HB 732/SB 568 - Health Care Practitioners - Telehealth - Out-of-State Health Care Practitioners** These Bills did not get voted out of the Committees and at this time will not pass.
- h) **HB 1006/SB 938 - Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, and Registration** These Bills did not get voted out of the Committees and at this time will not pass.
- **SB 167 State Board of Social Work Examiners – Temporary License to Practice Social Work** – There was a hearing held in the House on March 25, 2021. The Sub-Committee meeting was held however, the voting process was put on hold due to a possible amendment. Lillian Reese is currently waiting for a new Sub-Committee date.
- A reminder that **Financial Disclosure Reports** are due by April 30, 2021.
- Dr. Stanley Weinstein informed the Board that he received the pass scores from ASWB. The scores are as follows:

First time Examination Scores	Repeat Examination Scores
LMSW – 73% passed	LMSW - 30% passed
LCSW-C -77% passed	LCSW-C 39% passed
- Dr. Stanley Weinstein shared with the Board the idea of the ***Social Work Compact***. The primary purpose is to facilitate the practice in other states. This initiative was implemented by The Department of Defense. ASWB, NASW and other organizations are involved in this initiative. However it is a state by state decision to participate or not. He informed the members, the process may take several years as it will also require making changes to the Board’s Statute.
- He mentioned an email blast was sent to 871 licensees who did not renew before October 31, 2020. We informed them of the June 30, 2021 deadline as recently determined by the Governor’s Executive Order.
- Dr. Stanley Weinstein had a meeting with Nicholas E. Johansson, Principal Counsel, Health Occupation Prosecution and Litigation Division –Office of the

Attorney General. The concerns discussed, was the backlog of cases sent to the OAG office by the Board. Mr. Johansson has set up a process where the Boards cases will be reviewed in a timely matter. In addition, he will personally review the backlog of cases with the intent to expedite those cases. The Board will most likely be holding more hearing in the coming months.

- Karen Richards was asked to update the Board of the revision made on the Regulations concerning CEU's. There were changes made to the language enabling better clarification to the requirements. Additions were made to Category 1 which requires 3 CEU's, which should include a focus on race, culture and equality which falls under 10.42.06.03A.(1&d) Clarification was made to 10.42.06.07 – Consequences for Failure to Comply with the Continuing Education requirements. Also, clarification was made to 10.42.06.07(.e) indicating the Board will close all applications after one year of submission if the requirements have not been met. Clarification was also regarding Board approved Sponsors due to the Board no longer approving sponsors. The change was sent to the Board members for review and a motion was made to approve the final draft. A vote was taken for the final approval and unanimously approved to the Regulations.
- Dr. Weinstein shared there will be a Board hearing on April 23, 2021 at 9:00 am followed by the Board Member Training on how the Board handles complaints, the Board operations and functions.
- Gail Wowk, reminded the Board members of the upcoming Spring Newsletter. She asked that articles be submitted by Monday, May 3rd, 2021
- Gerard Farrell shared he was impressed with the Committees dedication, commitment and hard work during the past year.

STATUTE AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Sondra Petty, Chair

- The Committee met on March 26, 2021. A discussion was held on the District of Columbia policy on private practice, the Temporary License Bill and changes needed to the Statute and Regulations. A vote was taken on the changes to Regulation 10.42.06 submitted by the CEU Committee. Review of the Boards Statute and Regulation on Private Practice section 19.307 and section 308. Sheryl Silberman asked for further clarification on the Private Practice Statute.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Karen Richards, Chair

- Karen Richards shared the Committee is still receiving questions concerning for CEU's that have not been approved by the Board. She previously discussed the Committee activities under Dr. Stanley Weinstein's report.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE OPEN SESSION

The Open Session adjourned at 11:27 am

Donald J list

Donald List, LCSW-C
Board Secretary/Treasurer

5/14/2021
Date

Stanley E. Weinstein

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

5/14/2021
Date