

OPEN SESSION MINUTES
DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 13, 2018

Call to Order

The April 13 meeting of the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee was called to order by Harold Fox in the physical absence of Alexa Richardson, Chair. Ms. Richardson was present via telephone. Other committee members present were Elizabeth Reiner, Jessica Watson and Kai Parker. Also present were Michael Conti, AAG, Board Counsel; Monica J. Mentzer, Director of Practice; Ann Tyminski, Administrator; Shetarah Goodwin, Administrative Officer; and Brian Stallsmith, IT representative.

Minutes

The open session minutes of the January 12 meeting were approved as presented.

HB 863

It was reported that HB 863 has passed. This bill will make certain changes to the DEM's practice act. The bill, when signed by the Governor, will be effective October 1, 2018.

Resignation

It was reported that Alexa Richardson, LDEM, Chair of the Committee will resign effective in June. Ms. Richardson will be asked to send a letter to the Board with this information. The Association (AIMM) will be alerted to present names for a replacement. Someone asked if members of the Committee need to be residents of the State. Section 8-6C-11 explains members must be residents of Maryland.

Quarterly Report

The quarterly report to the Board outlining the Committee's activities for the first quarter of 2018 was reviewed and approved.

Letter to Hospitals

Mr. Conti had kindly revised the letter to hospitals regarding transfers. The letter was approved with the removal of the word, "emergency" as there may be instances where transfer is appropriate but not an emergency. The letter will be taken to the BON for approval.

Changes to Website

Mrs. Tyminski reported that a request had been made by the Executive Director for pertinent changes to information that appears on the website. She presented the proposed changes for the DEMs site. The Committee found those changes to be appropriate.

MBON e-mail

Mr. Conti addressed the importance of committee members using only the MBON-DEMS e-mail for any and all correspondence concerning the work of the committee.

Brian Stallsmith, IT Department representative, gave a tutorial on setting up the members' e-mails. Those who were not present will be asked to contact Brian Stallsmith for specific instructions.

Proposed Ethics Regulations

Since all of the health occupations have regulations pertaining to ethics, Mrs. Tyminski presented a proposal. Mr. Conti suggested that the proposal requires more discussion. This will be placed on the May meeting agenda with the request that Committee members review and have additional suggestions ready for discussion.

Statute Changes

A Committee member suggested perhaps another substantive change is needed to the Act. She explained that she has a client who at 27-28 weeks had a hemoglobin of 10, and while it was not necessary to transfer the patient's care at that time in the pregnancy, the issue of low hemoglobin is on the list of reasons to transfer. She felt that should be on a consult requirement, not a transfer requirement. Mr. Conti explained we would need to confirm the process with Shirley Devaris as to what date the Department requires legislation proposals for the 2019 session. Mrs. Tyminski will check that with Ms. Devaris. Any statutory changes will be discussed at the May 11 meeting. Mr. Conti advised he would not be available for that meeting. However, Katie Giblin, AAG, will serve as counsel at that meeting.

Mr. Conti confirmed the process for proposing legislation. The Committee will gather its proposal language. The proposal language will be presented to Shirley Devaris who, in turn, will present the proposal to the BON for approval before it is sent to the Department. If it is determined that the BON will not present such legislation, the Committee will be advised to seek its Association's help in submitting such legislation.

Closed Session

On a motion made, seconded and voted the Committee went out of open session at 11:17 a.m. for the purpose of conducting a brief closed session. Following closed session, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann E. Tyminski, Administrator