

BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

OPEN SESSION MEETING

AGENDA

January 8, 2015

Room 110

The Open Session Meeting chaired by President Craig Friedman, DPM, opened at 1:10 PM.

Board members attending the meeting were Drs. Zachary Chattler, Jay LeBow, Todd Harrison and Philip Cohen. Consumer members present were Jay Boyar and Barbara Crosby.

Staff attending: Eva Schwartz, Executive Director, Anthony DeFranco, Board Counsel, Sheri Henderson, Administrative Officer, and Elizabeth Amspacher, Licensing Coordinator.

DHMH Guests attending: Paula Hollinger, Kristen Neville, and Sharon Bloom.

MPMA Representative attending: Chanelle Carter, DPM.

Public at large attending: Harold Glazer, DPM.

A. MINUTES:

1. Approval of minutes from December 11, 2014, Meeting

The Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

B. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Inquiry- Criteria for a licensed Nail Technician services in a Podiatrist's Office

The Board reviewed an inquiry regarding if a Maryland licensed nail technician can work in a podiatrist's office without having a room or specific location inside the medical office dedicated for only nail care services, specifically if such a free standing podiatric office is not a licensed Spa or a licensed nail salon. Additionally the question was posed if State/DHMH approval for such independent practice at such a location is required for the licensed technician. Board Counsel has researched the topic, and it was concluded that, pursuant to the Maryland Cosmetology Act, a licensed nail technician can only work in certain specified places and currently a podiatrist's office is not included. After discussion, the Board requested that a formal request be forwarded to the Cosmetology Board requiring a ruling from that Board that it would approve to add a podiatry office to the list of entities of permissible licensed nail technicians' work places.

2. Civil Fines Regulations

The Board was informed that the civil fines regulations are currently in the public comment period which will end Monday, January 12, 2015. If no comments are made, the regulations will proceed as written and can be expected to become final and in effect sometime next month.

3. CME's for pro bono podiatric services

The Board discussed the concept of awarding Continuing Medical Education credits for podiatrists who perform pro bono podiatric services in a Board approved facility. The Board decided that they will review the regulations from the Board of Physicians that awards CME's for their pro bono service. Further discussion on the topic was moved to the February 12, 2015 Board meeting.

4. Discussion about Type of CME requirements: online, in class, and categories A or B- total number of CME's to be accrued in each category.

Currently, Board policy states that podiatrists are expected to complete 50 Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits every two (2) years for the renewal of their Maryland state license. Of these required CME's, 35 credits must be earned in Category A directly related to scope of podiatric practice, and 15 credits can be earned in Category B, overall medically related or applicable. Category B credits are counted at half of earned credit. All CME credits could be obtained online except for the specific requirements for the approved CPR Certification which must include the practicum (skills set portion). CPR Certification must be continuous, valid and nonlapsing throughout the Active licensure status of a Maryland podiatrist. After discussion, the Board decided to implement a new CME policy for licensees. This proposed policy will require podiatrists to continue to complete 50 CME credits every two (2) years for their Maryland license renewal, but will require 25 of those credits to be in person and podiatry related, and up to 25 credits can be online or other media sources. Any course work completed either in attendance or online, must be pre-approved by the Board. Online courses must be worth at least one (1) CME credit hour. Subsequently, classification of category A or B credits will be discontinued.

Upon approval of the Minutes at the February Board Meeting, all Active and Inactive licensees will be informed via email regarding the new CME credits accrual. Current podiatrists will have the option of using either policy for the 2016-2017 renewal, however, only the new policy will be accepted toward all future renewals after that.

5. CME requirements criteria for Dispensing Permit Holders

Eva Schwartz, Executive Director, sent a request to the Board of Dental Examiners regarding their online seminar that the School of Dentistry developed collaboratively, that it could be also accessed via their website by DPM dispensing permit holders. A list approved by Secretary Sharfstein and presently posted on the Board of Physicians' website will be placed on the Maryland Board of Podiatry's website for reference for podiatrists who hold a dispensing permit and need to meet the required CME's.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Electronic Verification/Certification of Licensure

The Board was informed that the Pennsylvania State Board of Podiatry will no longer be sending original hard copy verifications, and will be implementing a new secure electronic process via email for all verifications requested.

The Board discussed implementing a system like this for Maryland, but at this time the server can not be set up to incorporate the payment system for such.

2. Proposed Meeting with New Licensees

The Board discussed meeting with all new licensees that enter the state to introduce themselves and answer any questions or concerns they may have. After discussion, the Board decided there was no mechanism presently for such endeavor. The Board will continue to send a letter with the initial license, inviting the new licensee to upcoming meeting and referring them to the Board's website.

3. Proposed Regulations Regarding Authority for Informal Discipline

The proposed regulations regarding authority for informal discipline were moved to the executive session.

4. Budget Hearings: House Feb. 5th, Senate Feb 9th

The Board was informed that the budget hearings will occur on February 5, 2015 in the House and February 9, 2015 in the Senate.

5. Board member appointment/reappointment - mandatory advertisement on Board website for upcoming vacancy of term (May 2015).

The Board is required to advertise any upcoming vacancies on the Board website. The Board will have an upcoming vacancy eligible for reappointment or new appointment, occurring at the end of May 2015. This information with the mandatory advertisement will be placed on the Board website for the podiatry community. The MPMA will be accepting applications from actively practicing podiatrists interested to serve on the Board, until April 2015.

With no further business, the Meeting concluded at 2:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay H. Boyar, Secretary/Treasurer



