

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2021

The 661st Open Board Meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by the Chairperson, Christopher Bishop, Psy.D.

Board Members Present:

Crystal Barksdale, Ph.D. Vice Chairperson
Stephen Bono, Ph.D.
James F. Gormally, Ph.D., ABPP
Neal R. Morris, Ed.D. MS, CBSM, ABPP
Reginald Nettles, Ph.D., CGP
Raj Razdan, Consumer Member
Samantha Rukert, Psy.D.
Zeno St. Cyr II, Consumer Member

Staff Present:

Lorraine Smith, Executive Director
Stephanie Coley, Licensing Coordinator
Patricia Morris English, Board Investigator
Brett Felter AAG, Board Counsel

Public Present:

Shalena Heard, Ph.D. – Maryland Psychological Association (MPA)

May 7, 2021 Board meeting was held via teleconference.

A. Minutes

Minutes of the Open Meeting held on April 9, 2021 were reviewed **A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to accept the minutes as submitted.**

B. Announcements

Executive Director - The list of registrants for the May law exam was reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the list and others who may register later.**

Ms. Smith reported on the following bills:

HB0028/SB0005 – Public Health- Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority and Health Disparities- Requires licensees and psychology associates to obtain continuing education units in implicit bias upon renewal. **Passed**

HB0224/SB0262 – Department of Information Technology- Study of a Common Information Technology Platform for Health Occupations Boards - This bill requires the Department of

Information Technology to review technology platforms used by Health Occupation Boards to determine the feasibility and cost of developing one platform used by all Boards. A report is due by December 2021. **Passed**

HB0732/SB0568 – Health Care Practitioners- Telehealth-Out-of-State Health Care

This bill authorizes out-of-state practitioners to provide telehealth services to patients located in Maryland requires Health Occupation Boards to register out-of-state practitioners who provide telehealth services to patients locate din Maryland. Out-of-state practitioners would be required to complete an application, pay an application fee, and submit a criminal history records check. Registration information would be published on websites and Board’s would be responsible for disciplinary actions. **Did not progress**

HB 0970/SB0500– Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact This bill requires the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists to enter into the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact, PsyPact. PsyPact establishes certain criteria and duties for compact states and requires psychologists to meet certain eligibility requirements to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology and temporary authority to practice in-person. **Passed**

HB0132/SB0041- Health-Mental and Emotional Disorders- Consent (Mental Health Access Initiative) – This bill alters the minimum age of consent for mental or emotional treatment from 16 years old to 12 years old. **Passed**

HB0344/SB0072-Open Meetings Act- Requirements for State Agencies and Local Boards of Elections (Maryland Transparency Act of 2021) – Requires Health Occupation Boards to post live video or audio streaming of Open Meetings on their website. **Did not progress**

HB 0183/SB0449 -Public Information Act – Revisions (Equitable Access to Records Act) – Requires Health Occupation Boards to adopt a policy of proactive disclosure of public records that are available for inspection. **Passed**

Ms. Smith also provided language for the Sunset Review legislative bill that will be submitted during the 2022 session requesting that the Board be granted an additional 10 years to exist. **After a discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to accept the language.**

C. Public Comments

No Public Comment.

D. Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session to discuss disciplinary matters and to consult with Counsel. The open meeting was closed at 9:32 a.m. unless recused those attending the open session remained for the Administrative session.