

# Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

## Open Board Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2016

The 612<sup>th</sup> Open Board Meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by the Chairperson, Neal R. Morris, Ed.D. MS, CBSM, ABPP.

### **Board Members Present:**

Linda Berg-Cross, Ph.D  
Christopher Bishop, Psy.D.  
James F. Gormally, Ph.D., Vice-Chairperson  
Irene W. Leigh, Ph.D.  
Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member  
Harriett Rakes, Consumer Member

### **Board Members Absent:**

Cyndie Buckson, Psy.D.  
Rivka Olley, Ph.D.

### **Staff Present:**

Lorraine Smith, MPH, Executive Director  
Sally Mitchell, Licensing Coordinator  
Stephanie Coley, Administrative Assistant  
Brett Felter, AAG, Board Counsel

### **Interpreters:**

Charmine Johnson

### **A. Minutes**

Minutes of the Open Meeting held on April 1, 2016 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 to authorize the licensing committee to approve others who may register later.**

Ms. Smith reported that SB 1083 - *Secretaries of Principal Departments – Supervision and Review of Decisions and Actions by Units Within Department* failed. This bill would have given the secretary of DHMH authority to approve, disapprove, or modify decisions of the Boards and Commissions.

HB 0217 – *Open Meetings Act- Requirements for Agendas* - passed. This bill requires health boards to make the open meeting agenda available to the public before or after the meeting.

HB 0984 – *Open Meetings Act- Retention of Minutes and Recordings* - passed. This bill requires health boards to post open minutes on the website for five (5) years instead of one (1) year.

SB 1005 – *Justice Reinvestment Act* - passed. This bill requires licensing boards to consider a certificate of rehabilitation for applicants convicted of misdemeanors or felonies when determining the qualifications of an applicant for a professional or occupational license or certificate (Does not include crimes of violent or sexual nature).

HB 0885 - *Behavioral Health Administration – Creation and Maintenance of Mental Health Professional Profiles (Patient Protection Provider Information Act)* - failed. This bill required certain mental health professional boards to create a database of licensees listing disciplinary actions and schools that the licensees have attended.

HB 0944 - *Criminal Law – Professional Counselors and Therapists – Misconduct (Lynette’s Law)* - failed. This bill criminalized a sexual relationship between a therapist and patient.

Ms. Smith reported that the Board will introduce new legislation during the 2017 legislative session that requires licensees to undergo a background check every six (6) years upon renewal. This legislation will also apply to licensees who reinstate or reactivate their license after one (1) year from their initial non renewed or inactive status. Following a discussion **a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to submit legislation in 2017.**

Ms. Smith provided the following 2016 financial report for the even number renewal period that ended on March 31, 2016.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b><u>Total licensees to renew</u></b> | <b>1544</b> |
| Renewed                                | 1413        |
| Non-renewed                            | 85          |
| Inactive status                        | 41          |
| Retired                                | 5           |

**Revenue Collected**

Renewed Revenue: \$565,200

Inactive Revenue: \$8,200

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$573,400**

Dr. Morris reported that he attended the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) mid-year meeting. The theme was on social media and cautioning psychologists to keep their professional and personal lives separate. Telehealth was also discussed between several Mid-Atlantic States, regarding forming a compact. The telepsychology committee agreed to examine the option and report back to the Board.

Dr. Morris announced that the June Board meeting would be Ms. Rakes and Dr. Olley's last meeting as board members. They were thanked for their service on the Board.

**C. Committee Reports**

*Licensing* – The committee continues to review applications.

*Operations* – The committee provided a report on the closeout of license renewal.

*Public Affairs* – The Board spring/summer newsletter was distributed.

*Disciplinary* – The committee had no information to report.

**D. Nominations**

Nominations were held for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. The election will be held in June.

**E. Public Comments**

No public comment.

**F. 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 10:52 a.m. unless recused those attending the open session remained for the Administrative Session.