

MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
Room 100

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

SEPTEMBER 10, 2013
1:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Corinne Axelrod, L.Ac., Kate Carter, L.Ac., Deneb Falabella, L.Ac., Thomas Ingegno, L.Ac., Grant Zhang, L.Ac., Jan Exler, Consumer, Charles Neustadt, Consumer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Penny Heisler, Executive Director, Cynthia Dobbins, Administrative Officer, Marian Ruth, Investigator, and Noreen Rubin, AAG

GUESTS:

Tracy Soltesz, L.Ac., MAS

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Ms. Falabella called the Acupuncture Board meeting to order at 1:00 pm and a quorum was established.

2. APPROVAL OF JULY 9, 2013 MINUTES

Ms. Carter moved to approve the Minutes with minor corrections and Mr. Ingegno seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. DRY NEEDLING REGULATIONS

After the last meeting, the Board decided to send a letter of concern to Dr. Sharfstein regarding the PT Board's third draft of their dry needling regulations. A letter was sent on July 22, 2013. Ms. Heisler stated that she recently spoke with the Executive Director of the PT Board who informed her that Secretary Sharfstein had recently returned the third draft for more clarification and changes. She will keep the Board apprised on any changes.

B. HERBAL MEDICINE

Ms. Falabella informed the Board that there was nothing to report at this time.

C. MHCC USER FEE

Ms. Heisler informed the Board that she is trying to get acupuncturists exempted from the MHCC User Fee. Using the NCCAOM job analysis study, she hopes to prove that most acupuncturists work part-time, which would be a basis for exemption. MHCC has informed her that they will be meeting individually with boards in the fall to talk about all issues regarding this fee. However, if an exemption is granted, it will not take effect until FY2015.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. INITIAL LICENSURE APPLICATION APPROVAL

Mr. Neustadt moved to approve the list of new applicants and Ms. Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Ms. Heisler informed the Board that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will require that licensees who work with patients in long term care settings will be required to undergo background checks. Also, the NCCAOM is going to require background checks to sit for the exam and maintain certification.

Ms. Falabella wanted to discuss the Board's policy regarding providing acupuncture at health fairs and in an open forum. The policy is currently published in the Board's Regulations and Ethics Guide book. Ms. Rubin stated that she would like to review the Guide book. This issue will be placed on next agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.