

MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
Room 105

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

MAY 10, 2016
1:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas Ingegno, L.Ac., Teal Beatty, L.Ac., Sheryl Hongsermeier, L.Ac., Peter Marinakis, L.Ac., Ph.D., Jan Exler, M.Ed., Consumer, and Barbara Heller, Ed.D., R.N., Consumer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kate Carter, L.Ac

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Penny Heisler, Executive Director, Cynthia Dobbins, Administrative Officer, Danielle Vallone, Investigator and David Finkler, AAG

GUESTS:

David Blaiwas, L.Ac., President MAS, Sharon Bloom, DHMH, David Wurzel, L.Ac.

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

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

Ms. Heisler introduced and welcomed the new Maryland Acupuncture Society President, David Blaiwas, L.Ac.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 8, 2016 MINUTES

Mr. Exler moved to approve the Minutes as written and Ms. Beatty seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

1. OLD BUSINESS

A. DRY NEEDLING

Ms. Heisler informed the Board that Secretary Mitchell has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2016 to discuss the status of the dry needling regulations. Ms. Carter has formed a committee with members of the Physical Therapy Board to develop a curriculum for dry needling that is safe and will protect the public. Mr. Blaiwas has volunteered to assist and serve on the committee.

B. SCOPE OF PRACTICE

No report.

C. LEGISLATION 2016

Ms. Heisler gave a report on the status of the following Bills:

- **SB1083 – Secretaries of Principal Departments - Supervision and Review of Decisions and Actions by Units within Department**

The Bill was heard in the House on April 11, 2016 and did not move out of the Committee. The Bill would have required the Secretary to adopt regulations for the supervision of Boards. This Bill was drafted by the Attorney General's Office in response to the Supreme Court ruling in the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission.

- **SB17 Open Meetings Act – Requirements for Providing Agendas**

Ms Heisler stated that the Bill was signed into law on May 10, 2016. The Bill requires that the Board make its agenda 2 weeks before its board meeting. Ms. Heisler will post future agenda on the Board's website. The Bill also requires that the Board maintain and keep minutes for 5 years. Ms. Heisler informed the Board that she maintains minutes and has copies since the inception of the board in 1994

D. SENIOR RENEWAL DISCOUNT

Tabled until next Board meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. INITIAL LICENSURE APPLICATION APPROVAL

Mr. Marinakis moved to approve the list of applicants for licensure and Mr. Exler seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

B. INTERIM LICENSE NUMBERS

At the last Board meeting, Dr. Heller questioned the interim licensure process and asked Ms. Heisler to inquire whether other Board allowed staff to issue licenses without formal Board approval. Ms. Heisler queried the Boards and reported the following:

By Staff

- Residential Child Care Administrators
- Environmental Specialists
- Optometrists
- Chiropractors
- Massage Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Dentists
- Professional Counselors
- Audiology/Speech/Hearing Aid Dispenser
- Social Work

By Board/Committee

- Morticians-Board
- Psychologists-Committee
- Nursing Home Administrators-Committee
- Podiatry-Board

After discussion, Dr. Heller moved to delegate authority to approve routine licenses to staff and Ms. Beatty seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

C. BOARD STATISTICS

Ms. Heisler provided the following statistics to the Board.

FY 2016 (7/1/15-6/31/16)

Total Active:

1065 FY 2016
1031 FY 2015
1027 FY2014
1012 FY2013
939 FY2012

Inactive Requests:

19 FY 2016
27 FY 2015
18 FY 2014
23 FY 2013
11 FY 2012

Application Basis of Total Active:

327 Applied by exam
738 Applied by accredited school

Verification Requests:

34 FY 2016
46 FY 2015
38 FY 2014
20 FY 2013
49 FY 2012

States:

890 MD
7 DE
28 DC
18 PA
61 VA
6 WV
55 Other

Reinstatements:

13 FY 2016
17 FY 2015
14 FY 2014
21 FY 2013
12 FY 2012

New Applications:

77 FY 2016
85 FY 2015
88 FY 2014
75 FY 2013
77 FY 2012

Renewals:

329 FY 2016
453 FY 2015
407 FY 2014
420 FY 2013
374 FY 2012

Dr. Marinakis questioned whether licensees had to provide some kind of proof that they have kept up their skill level through active practice in another state for reinstatement. Ms. Heisler stated that reinstatement applicants need only provide proof of fulfilling the continuing education requirements. Dr. Marinakis asked Ms. Heisler to query other Boards to inquire about their reinstatement requirements.

Mr. Exler moved to close the meeting of the general session and Dr. Marinakis seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.