

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2015

The 600th Open Meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by the Chairperson, Steven Sobelman, Ph.D.

Board members present:

Neal R. Morris, Ed.D., MS, CBSM, ABPP, Vice-Chairperson
Linda Berg-Cross, Ph.D.
Christopher Bishop, Psy.D
Cyndie Buckson, Psy.D
James F. Gormally, Ph.D.
Irene W. Leigh, Ph.D.
Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member
Harriett Rakes, Consumer Member

Staff present:

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

Interpreters:

Krystal Karpan
Francisco Vigil

Public present:

Kathleen Killeen, Ph.D., Maryland Psychological Association

A. Minutes

Minutes of the Open meeting held on November 7, 2014 were reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as submitted.**

B. Announcements

Executive Director – The list of candidates for the February exam was distributed. **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 the Department of Mental Hygiene has completed its implementation of the testing program that the Board uses to administer the law exam. Out of the 32 individuals that took the exam during the last couple of months, three failed.

Ms. Smith reported that the legislative session has begun. The budget hearing was held in the House on February 5, 2015 and no money was recommended to be cut from the Board's budget. However, nearly a combined 6 million dollars was recommended to be cut from the Nursing, Physicians and Pharmacy Boards. The Senate budget hearing will be held on February 9, 2015. Legislative Bills before the legislature include, SB 198 - *Health Care Disparities, Cultural and Linguistic Competency, and Health Literacy - Continuing Education* requires continuing education hours in cultural awareness prior to licensure and at renewal; SB 130 *Criminal Procedure - Shielding - Misdemeanor Convictions*- Shielding some court records and police records relating to a specified conviction during a specified time. The Board's proposed regulations are to be published in the Maryland Register on 2/6/2015.

Chairman - Dr. Sobelman gave a brief history of the Board's legislative committee. The Maryland Psychological Association (MPA) informed the Chair that another Lynette's Law bill is scheduled to be proposed during the legislative session and in preparing for the Bill, they have ask the Board to provide them with data on sexual misconduct complaints. The requested data will be provided to the MPA. Dr. Sobelman stated that SB 162 *Task Force to Study Regulation of Teletherapy* was introduced and the bill establishes a task force to study regulations of teletherapy. It was the consensus to support the bill and to recommend that a psychologist be a part of the task force. Dr. Sobelman reminded the members that the CLEAR Board Member Training would begin in March. Dr. Sobelman will facilitate the first module. Dr. Morris volunteered to facilitate module two.

C. **Committee Reports**

Disciplinary – Dr. Leigh reported that the application for Board-approved supervisors, peer reviewers, and experts is on the Board's website. An announcement will be placed in the Board's newsletter and MPA will be asked to do the same.

Licensing – Dr. Morris reported that the committee continues to review applications and is conducting continuing education audits. The committee will meet after the Board meeting.

Public Affairs – Ms. McCargo-Redd announced that the winter newsletter will be completed in March. It will include articles on psychology associates, new board members, and information relating to Board approved supervisors.

D. **Public Comment**

Dr. Killeen stated that MPA received calls about the online law exam when it was being upgraded. MPA was asked to advise the callers to contact the Board's office in the future. She thanked the Board for all that they do. Dr. Killeen asked about how the Maryland Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts could obtain approval to offer continuing education hours. She was advised to go through one of the approved sponsors listed in COMAR 10.26.02.06.

E. Closed Session/Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session to engage in medical review deliberations regarding information in the licensing application of Elizabeth Schmidt. The Board entered into closed session at 10:45 a.m. and came out at 10:50 a.m. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into administrative session to discuss disciplinary matters and to consult with Counsel.** Unless recused, those attending the open session remained for the administrative session. The Board entered into administrative session at 10:46 a.m., came out at 2:05 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven A. Sobelman, Ph.D.
Chairperson