

**ADVISORY BOARD ON OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Minutes
October 5, 2010**

The Advisory Board on Occupational Therapy met on October 5, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean A. Hearst, O.T., Vice-Chair
Aurora Stelz, OT
Eugenio Monasterio, MD

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeffrey Loveland, O.T., OTD, Chair
Eleanor Levi

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst
Bradley Verry, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

Jean Hearst called the meeting to order.

Let it be noted for the record that Dr. Harp announced the Emergency Evacuation Instructions prior to proceeding with the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 2009

Aurora Stelz moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Monasterio moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of Newsletter Items and Study to License Kinesiotherapists. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

#1. Review of final regulations for Occupational Therapy Assistants

Ms. Yeatts asked if there were any concerns or issues regarding the November 1, 2009 regulations regarding occupational therapy assistants. There were none; however, Ms. Powers asked the Advisory Board if it wanted to set a date by which all practicing occupational therapy assistants must hold a license or be subject to disciplinary action. Dr. Monasterio moved to provide communication to all currently licensed occupational therapists that April 1, 2011 would be that date. The motion was seconded and carried. Dr. Harp suggested that notification by mail at least 90 days prior to April 1, 2011, be provided to all currently licensed occupational therapists.

#2. Allied Health Board – Update

Ms. Yeatts explained the Department's process to study the need for an Allied Health Board. She conveyed to the Advisory Board the Department's recommendation that an Allied Health Board not be created at this time.

#3. Review of 2010 Legislation – HB153, SB194

Ms. Yeatts informed the Advisory Board of the two bills of interest. There was no action necessary.

#4. Newsletter Items

Dr. Harp asked if the Advisory Board had any items it would like published in the Board's newsletter. Two items were mentioned. They were notification of the requirement for licensure for OTA's as discussed above, and the initial licensure online payment method.

#5. Study to License Kinesiotherapists

Ms. Yeatts spoke regarding the Department's study of the need to license kinesiotherapists. She stated that there was one kinesiology program in Virginia and that this profession wanted to practice independently. Due to the low number of

kinesiotherapists in Virginia at this time and the expense that would incur to regulate the profession, the Department concluded that licensure was not necessary at this time. The study will be presented to the General Assembly.

#6. Election of Officers

Jean Hearst, OT was elected Chair by acclamation and Dr. Monasterio's offer to serve as Vice-chair was accepted by the Advisory board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

NEXT MEETING DATE

February 1, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Advisory board was adjourned.

Jean Hearst, O.T., Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Bradley Verry, Licensing Specialist