

**FINAL APPROVED**

**ADVISORY BOARD ON GENETIC COUNSELING  
MINUTES**

**May 20, 2019**

The Advisory Board on Genetic Counseling met on Monday, May 20, 2019 at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Quillin, PhD, MPH, MS, Chair  
Matthew Thomas, ScM, CGC  
Heather Creswick, MS, CGC  
Marilyn Foust, MD

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Lori Swain, Vice-Chair

**STAFF PRESENT:** David E. Brown, DC, DHP Director  
Jennifer Deschenes, Deputy Director, Discipline  
Colanthia M. Opher, Deputy Director for Administration  
Denise Mason, Licensing Specialist

**GUESTS PRESENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Quillin called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

**EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES**

Jennifer Deschenes announced the emergency egress instructions.

**ROLL CALL**

Denise Mason called roll, and a quorum was declared.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 1, 2018**

Ms. Deschenes noted a needed amendment to the announcements section of the October 1, 2018 minutes. She advised that striking “the” from second sentence would provide the correction.

Ms. Creswick moved to adopt the minutes of October 1, 2018 as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the agenda. It was seconded and carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Report of the 2019 General Assembly**

Dr. Brown reviewed the Report of the 2019 General Assembly and provided historical background on the bills that were of interest to the members.

Dr. Brown also provided a brief update on the status of the Board’s emergency regulations, APA regulatory actions, and future policy actions.

Both of these reports were for information only and did not require any action.

**2. Issues with the Licensing Process/Applicants-Denise Mason**

Discussion centered on genetic counselors experiencing a delay in licensure and therefore being unable to begin practicing. Licensing is interwoven with “active candidate status” with the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC). Active candidate status is lost when a genetic counselor passes the ABGC exam. It may then take a couple of months for a certified genetic counselor to obtain a license. Ms. Mason said that the processing time of an application depends on the diligence of the applicant in submitting documentation to the Board.

**3. Regulations governing the practice of Genetic Counselor *(for reference only)***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DRAFT UNAPPROVED**

Ms. Mason informed the Advisory Board that there are currently 242 Genetic Counselors holding licenses with the Virginia Board of Medicine; 146 of 242 of the licensed Genetic Counselors are out of state. There are currently eight (8) Temporary Genetic Counselors, all in the state of Virginia.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

September 30, 2019 at 1p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 a.m.

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John Quillin, PhD, MPH, MS Chair

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Jennifer Deschenes, Deputy Director, Discipline

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Denise Mason, Licensing Specialist