

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK BOARD MEETING

Friday, April 19, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.

Second Floor – Perimeter Center

Board Room 1

10:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER – Susan Horne-Quatannens, Chair

- Ordering of Agenda
- Public Comment
- Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2013 Board Meeting
- Director’s Report - Dr. Reynolds-Cane
- Regulatory/Legislative Update – Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst
- Executive Director’s Report - Catherine Chappell
- Board Staff Update – Sarah Georgen
- Board Counsel Report – Howard Casway, Sr. Assistant Attorney General

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Regulatory Committee Report – Yvonne Haynes
- Credentials Committee – Jennifer Blosser

OLD BUSINESS

- Educational Summit Update – Bernadette Winters

NEW BUSINESS

- Consideration of SB1011

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Credentials Informal Conference Recommended Decision on Applicants

ADJOURNMENT

Board Meeting Draft Minutes

January 25, 2013

**THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
MINUTES
Friday, January 25, 2013**

The Virginia Board of Social Work ("Board") meeting convened at 10:12 a.m. on Friday, January 25, 2013 at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Susan Horne-Quatannens, Chair called the meeting to order.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Blosser
Yvonne Haynes
Susan Horne-Quatannens, Chair
Arthur Mayer
Catherine Moore
Nettie Simon-Owens
Joseph Walsh
Bernadette Winters
Kristi Wooten

STAFF PRESENT: Howard Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Catherine Chappell, Executive Director
Sarah Georgen – Administrative and Office Specialist
Charlotte Lenart, Administrative Assistant
Arne Owens, DHP Deputy Director
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

ORDERING OF AGENDA

Ms. Chappell requested that the agenda be amended to delete the Discipline Deputy Executive Director's Report. An update on disciplinary activity would be included in the Board Staff Update.

Ms. Chappell suggested that discussion continue under Old Business regarding the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to plan an Educational Summit for graduate education programs in Virginia as well as in neighboring jurisdictions.

The Agenda was accepted as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. James Hinterlong, Dean of the School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University, thanked Board staff for their ongoing efforts to communicate with the community and educational institutions regarding social work licensure. He expressed gratitude for Catherine Chappell's efforts in meeting with VCU students last fall regarding the licensure process for clinical social workers.

Dr. Hinterlong stated that VCU looked forward to being involved with the proposed Ad Hoc meeting and Educational Summit, which he felt would allow open dialogue about the educational requirements for licensure. He suggested that the Board invite the Council of Social Work Education ("CSWE") to

attend the meeting because they could provide helpful information regarding the accreditation standards and competencies for educational programs.

He asked the Board to consider a grandfathering provision to applicants who do not meet the current educational requirements. Ms. Horne-Quatannens responded that the Board had considered similar requests for grandfathering in the past and decided not to implement such a provision because ample time was provided during promulgation of regulations for students to obtain the required coursework needed for licensure.

Debra Riggs, Executive Director of the NASW, Virginia Chapter expressed the Chapter's concerns about the social work workforce in Virginia and she asked the Board to reconsider its educational requirements relating to hourly credits, doctorate degrees, explanatory theory requirements, and identification of a clinical degree. Ms. Riggs read a letter from NASW-VA which reiterated her concerns regarding educational requirements.

Rick Goodling, LCSW presented a letter on behalf of the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work ("GWSCSW") which expressed the organization's support of the Board's current educational requirements and efforts to establish an Ad Hoc committee to review the "clinical course of study" requirements.

Joseph Lynch, LCSW spoke on behalf of the Virginia Society for Clinical Social Work ("VSCSW") and offered their support to the Virginia Board of Social Work in establishing an Ad Hoc meeting and educational summit to discuss the current educational requirements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 30, 2012 Board Meeting

Dr. Walsh requested that the meeting minutes be amended to reflect that he was present at the November 30, 2012 Board meeting and to remove Patricia Smith-Solan's name from those in attendance.

Dr. Simon-Owens noted that the word "preventive" needed to be changed to "preventative" in the New Business section of the meeting minutes.

Ms. Chappell requested that the Credentials Committee Report be changed to reflect that Ms. Moore reported that Ms. Jennifer Blosser had been asked by the Board Chair and agreed to serve as the chair for the Credentials Committee for the coming year.

Dr. Simon-Owens moved that the minutes of the November 30, 2012 Board meeting be approved as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Walsh and passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Arne Owens

Mr. Owens reported that the on-going activities at the General Assembly were the priority for the Agency in February. Mr. Owens stated that the Director's office was focused on the coming year and looking forward to each Board's success.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Catherine Chappell

Ms. Chappell recognized the Board members for their support and attendance at the quarterly meeting. She reminded members of the need to establish a quorum of at least five members at full board meetings in order to be able to render decisions.

Financial Report. A report on the Board's finances was provided as of December 31, 2012, which showed that the cash balance continued in a shortfall. The cash shortfall is a consistent trend every 18 months into a renewal cycle. The Board has proposed a fee increase and change in renewal cycle but those changes are still in proposed form. The other behavioral sciences boards use an annual licensure renewal period while the Board of Social Work continues to use a biennial renewal period. Renewal notices are anticipated to be mailed to licensees in early May, which should bring the cash flow to a positive level for another 18 months.

Staffing Issues. Ms. Chappell announced that recruitment had begun for the Licensing Deputy position, which was a mission critical position for the behavioral sciences boards. Ms. Chappell advised that the Discipline Deputy would be out of the office for a few weeks and that disciplinary cases and credentials appeals would be handled by another behavioral sciences staff member with a paralegal background, until her return.

Outreach Activities. She announced that staff continues to seek opportunities to reach out to the stakeholders of the three behavioral sciences boards. With respect to Social Work, a videoteleconference presentation was planned with Catholic University graduate students on February 4. Interest had also been received from students at West Virginia University, George Mason University, and Howard University in learning more about the licensure process. Interest in Virginia licensure from neighboring jurisdictions was growing because students often seek licensure in multiple jurisdictions.

Ms. Chappell announced that she would be participating in the NASW annual meeting in March in Williamsburg, with plans to talk with students about the application process on one day and then serve on a panel to discuss the disciplinary process at the Agency on the second day.

Board member training opportunities. Ms. Chappell announced several opportunities for board members to participate in board member training through the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) in 2013. Travel and participation for these meetings would be fully funded by the ASWB, but must be preapproved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services offices due to state travel requirements. Additionally, as a new administrator, she had been offered the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming educational meetings with full funding.

BOARD STAFF UPDATE – Sarah Georgen

Staffing Update. Ms. Georgen reported that board staff continued to work as efficiently as possible to administratively review applications, process calls and emails, and provide written responses from the Credentials Reviewers regarding recommended decisions. With the current two-person staff, the volume of applications received by the Board continued to be challenging. The volume of applications received in the past year increased by 22%.

Ms. Georgen stated that board staff had approximately 100 applications in queue to be evaluated by the Credentials Reviewers, and about 225 applications were considered “administratively pending” which were awaiting additional documentation required by applicants. She noted that the Credentials Reviewers evaluated files at least three times per month.

She stated that in 2012, the Credentials Reviewers approved almost twice as many applications than deferred. Specifically, the board had approved 488 applications for supervision and licensure and deferred 284 applications due to incomplete information, supervision deficiencies, and/or coursework concerns. Since the last board meeting in November, seventy-one (71) applications had been approved, while forty-four (44) applications have been deferred.

In addition to the applications, Board staff received approximately 475 calls, on average, per month, which was approximately 40% more than the previous year. Board staff also responded to approximately 500 emails per month, which was a 55% increase from the previous time period.

Ms. Georgen recognized Charlotte Lenart for her continuous dedication and excellent customer service skills. Ms. Georgen noted that she had received several compliments about Ms. Lenart’s patience and ability to assist callers with their specific questions.

Licensing Activity. Ms. Georgen reported that although the volume continued to increase, the Board had licensed 25% more LSWs and LCSWs in 2012 compared to 2011. To date, the Board was responsible for 6,103 licensees. Board staff received 988 new applications and registration requests, and licensed 387 new licenses in 2012.

Online Applications. As of November 27, 2012, the Board of Social Work has offered Registration of Supervision, Application for LCSW by Examination and Application for LCSW by Endorsement as online applications. There have been 131 online applications received to date. This process will allow applicants to view the status of their application via an online checklist and should reduce the need to call or email the Board office for an update.

Disciplinary Report. Ms. Georgen stated that since the last meeting, the Board had received nine (9) new disciplinary cases and closed four (4) old cases.

At the present time, there were twenty-nine (29) open, active cases for the Board of Social Work. Currently, fourteen (14) cases were being investigated by the Enforcement Division, twelve (12) cases were at Board level to be reviewed for probable cause, one case is to be scheduled for an informal conference, and one case was currently at the Administrative Proceedings Division level.

Additionally, she noted that there were six (6) credential informal conferences scheduled for March 1, 2013, and there is one credential case to be schedule for a formal conference.

REGULATORY/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts stated that two sets of proposed regulations for the Board were awaiting approval: proposed regulations to provide for a fee increase and change in renewal cycle were at the Secretary’s office; and proposed regulations to clarify licensure requirements were at the Governor’s office.

She stated that the licensure requirements that were currently in the final stage at the Governor's Office appear to be beneficial to those applying for licensure by endorsement.

Ms. Yeatts presented a list of General Assembly bills that could impact the Behavioral Sciences Unit, specifically the Board of Social Work and the Board of Counseling. Ms. Yeatts reviewed the current bills with the Board and specifically noted that SB 1011 was proposed to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a new section 54.1-3707.1 relating to the educational requirements for licensure as a clinical social worker.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE – Yvonne Haynes/Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Haynes asked the Board to consider regulatory changes, as proposed by the Regulatory Committee, in conjunction with the Governor's Regulatory Reform Project initiative. Ms. Haynes reported that a thorough review of the regulations had been made by the Regulatory Committee to determine whether regulations could be amended in an effort to reduce regulation. Ms. Yeatts indicated that the Board approved regulatory reform amendments would be fast tracked.

Ms. Yeatts offered a review of the contemplated sections of the Board's regulations in which the goal was to eliminate any requirement that was deemed unnecessary while ensuring that the Board licensed qualified individuals in order to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

18VAC140-20-10: Definitions. The Board reviewed proposed changes to the definitions section, which added a definition of "Ancillary services" in order to provide an understanding of what activities constitute such services, and clarified the term "Face-to-face supervision" in order to address the use of technology which provided real-time, visual contact among the individuals involved.

18VAC140-20-30: Fees. Proposed changes to remove references to a one-time fee reduction were accepted.

18VAC140-20-40: Requirements for licensure by examination as a clinical social worker. The Board considered changes to application by examination requirements in light of implementation of online applications. Additionally, Dr. Simon-Owens moved to add "or certification" after "licensure" in the last line of that section. The motion was seconded and carried.

18VAC140-20-45: Requirements for licensure by endorsement. The Board considered changes to application by endorsement requirements, in response to the implementation of online applications. Additionally, the regulations were amended to accept as active practice, social work in an exempt setting, which may not require licensure. Further, the requirement to establish a passing score on the national licensure examination was eliminated because the Board relied upon the testing body to determine what score constituted passing a particular examination.

18VAC140-20-49: Educational requirements for a licensed clinical social worker. The Board considered proposed changes to the education requirements in order to clarify a "clinical course of study." However, Dr. Simon-Owens moved to defer discussion of the educational requirements until a later

date, and requested that an Ad Hoc committee discuss educational requirements and plan for an Educational Summit. The motion was seconded and carried.

18VAC140-20-50: Experience requirements for a licensed clinical social worker. The Board considered amendments to clarify experience requirements and face-to-face client contact. Dr. Simon-Owens moved to use the term “ancillary services” rather than “ancillary duties and activities” in order to be consistent with the definitions. The motion was seconded and carried.

18VAC140-20-51: Requirements for licensure by examination as a licensed social worker. The Board considered changes to application by examination requirements in light of implementation of online applications.

18VAC140-20-60: Education and experience requirements for licensed social workers. Language relating to supervision that began before 2008 and was accepted until 2012 was eliminated as it was no longer valid or necessary.

18VAC140-20-70: Examination requirements. The section was amended to clarify the examinations prescribed by the Board for licensure as an LCSW or an LSW and to eliminate language requiring the Board to establish a passing score on the examinations. The Board relied upon ASWB to determine the passing score.

18VAC140-20-100: Licensure renewal. An outdated phrase (beginning with the 2003 renewal) was eliminated.

18VAC140-20-106: Documenting compliance with continuing education requirements. The section was amended to eliminate the documentation required to verify completion of Category II activities because the documentation of such activities was unnecessary to achieve the intent.

Ms. Haynes moved to adopt the proposed regulations as proposed by the Regulatory Committee, and as subsequently amended by the Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE – Jennifer Blosser

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Ms. Blosser was unavailable to provide the Credentials Committee report. The report would be provided at the April 19, 2013 Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Chappell suggested that a planning meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee be scheduled in the next few months with the goal of considering the definition of “clinical course of study” and preparing for an Educational Summit. Ms. Horne-Quatannens reminded the Board that she, Dr. Winters, Dr. Walsh, Ms. Haynes, and Dr. Simon-Owens had agreed to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Susan Horne-Quatannens, Chair

Catherine Chappell, Executive Director

Regulatory/Legislative Update

Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst

Board of Social Work Status of Regulatory Actions

Chapter	Action / Stage Information
Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work [18 VAC 140 - 20]	<u>Action:</u> Fee increase and renewal cycle <u>Stage:</u> Proposed - <i>At Secretary's Office for 831 days</i>
Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work [18 VAC 140 - 20]	<u>Action:</u> Regulatory reform <u>Stage:</u> Fast-Track - <i>At Secretary's Office for 8 days</i>
Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work [18 VAC 140 - 20]	<u>Action:</u> Licensure requirements <u>Stage:</u> Final - <i>At Governor's Office for 10 days</i> <i>NOIRA filed in 2010</i>

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2013 SESSION

CHAPTER 533

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.1, relating to licensed clinical social workers; educational requirements.

[S 1011]

Approved March 18, 2013

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.1 as follows:

§ 54.1-3707.1. Educational requirements.

The Board shall accept proof of the successful completion of the following as evidence of the satisfaction of the educational requirements for licensure as a clinical social worker: (i) a master's degree in social work with a clinical course of study from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, (ii) a master's degree in social work with a non-clinical concentration from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education together with successful completion of the educational requirements for a clinical course of study through a graduate program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, or (iii) a program of education and training in social work at an educational institution outside the United States recognized by the Council on Social Work Education. For the purposes of this section, "clinical course of study" means graduate coursework that includes specialized advanced courses in human behavior and the social environment, social justice and policy, psychopathology, and diversity issues; research; clinical practice with individuals, families, and groups; and clinical practicum that focuses on diagnostic, prevention, and treatment services.

Regulations

18VAC140-20-10. Definitions.

A. The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the meanings ascribed to them in § 54.1-3700 of the Code of Virginia:

Board

Casework

Casework management and supportive services

Clinical social worker

Practice of social work

Social worker

B. The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Accredited school of social work" means a school of social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

"Clinical course of study" means graduate course work which includes specialized advanced courses in human behavior and social environment, social policy, research, clinical practice with individuals, families, groups and a clinical practicum which focuses on diagnostic, prevention and treatment services.

"Clinical social work services" include the application of social work principles and methods in performing assessments and diagnoses based on a recognized manual of mental and emotional disorders or recognized system of problem definition, preventive and early intervention services and treatment services, including but not limited to psychotherapy and counseling for mental disorders, substance abuse, marriage and family dysfunction, and problems caused by social and psychological stress or health impairment.

"Exempt practice" is that which meets the conditions of exemption from the requirements of licensure as defined in § 54.1-3701 of the Code of Virginia.

"Face-to-face supervision" means the physical presence of the individuals involved in the supervisory relationship during either individual or group supervision.

"Nonexempt practice" is that which does not meet the conditions of exemption from the requirements of licensure as defined in § 54.1-3701 of the Code of Virginia.

"Supervisee" means an individual who has submitted a supervisory contract and has received board approval to provide clinical services in social work under supervision.

"Supervision" means a professional relationship between a supervisor and supervisee in which the supervisor directs, monitors and evaluates the supervisee's social work practice while promoting development of the supervisee's knowledge, skills and abilities to provide social work services in an ethical and competent manner.

18VAC140-20-49. Educational requirements for a licensed clinical social worker.

A. The applicant shall be a graduate of a Master or Doctor of Social Work Program in a clinical course of study. An applicant with a nonclinical concentration shall complete additional graduate level academic course work and field placement/practicum to meet all requirements for a clinical course of study.

B. The minimum course requirements for a clinical course of study shall include graduate level courses consisting of:

1. Twelve credit hours of explanatory theory;
2. Twelve credit hours of practice theory;
3. Three credit hours of psychopathology including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment;
4. Three credit hours of social work practice research; and
5. Coursework in diversity issues, social justice, culture, and at-risk populations.

C. The requirement for a supervised field placement/practicum in clinical social work services shall be a minimum of 600 hours, which shall be integrated with clinical course of study coursework and supervised by a person who is a licensed clinical social worker or who holds a master's or doctor's degree in social work and has a minimum of three years of experience in clinical social work services after earning the graduate degree. An applicant who has otherwise met the requirements for a clinical course of study but who did not have a minimum of 600 hours in a supervised field placement/practicum in clinical social work services may meet the requirement by obtaining an equivalent number of hours of supervised practice in clinical social work services in addition to the experience required in 18VAC140-20-50.

D. Graduates of a bachelor of social work program who earn advanced standing in the masters program shall meet all minimum course requirements for a clinical course of study, except advanced standing students may count up to six hours of explanatory theory and up to six hours of practice theory completed during the bachelor degree program towards meeting the requirements.

E. A master of social work program shall (i) include foundation course work common for all social work students, (ii) include advanced course work for student specialization, and (iii) be accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. A doctor of social work program shall at a minimum: (i) meet all requirements for the advanced course requirements for a clinical course of study, and (ii) be accredited by the appropriate regional academic accrediting body (e.g., Southern Association of Colleges and Schools).

Credentials Committee Draft
Minutes

January 25, 2013

THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

Friday, January 25, 2013

The Credentials Committee of the Virginia Board of Social Work convened at 1:19 p.m. on Friday, January 25, 2013 at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Jennifer Blosser called the meeting to order.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Jennifer Blosser
Yvonne Haynes
Arthur Mayer
Catherine Moore
Nettie Simon-Owens

STAFF PRESENT:

Howard Casway, Sr. Assistant Attorney General
Catherine Chappell, Executive Director
Sarah Georgen, Administrative Assistant
Charlotte Lenart, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Blosser welcomed the Committee members and called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the November 30, 2012 Credentials Committee meeting were approved as written.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mr. Mayer moved that the Committee convene in Closed Meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(4) in accordance with Section 2.2-3704(A) and 54.1-108 of the Code of Virginia to discuss applications for licensure. He moved that Howard Casway, Catherine Chappell, Sarah Georgen and Charlotte Lenart attend the Closed Meeting because their presence in the Closed Meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations.

OPEN SESSION:

Mr. Mayer moved that pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia that the Committee heard, discussed or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as identified in her motion by which the closed meeting was convened.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee considered 11 licensure and supervision requests. Files are referred by the Credentials Reviewer to the Committee for evaluation when the Reviewer is unable to render a decision. The files sent to the Committee represent a small percentage of the applications that are processed each quarter.

DECISION:

The Credentials Committee made the following determinations:

1. The Committee requested that additional information be submitted on one (1) file;
2. Denied four (4) applications due to supervision concerns;
3. Denied four (4) applications due to education concerns;
4. Denied one (1) application due to education, practicum and supervision concerns;
5. Approved one (1) request for registration of supervision.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Credentials Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Jennifer Blosser, Chair

Catherine Chappell, Executive Director

Ad Hoc Committee Draft
Minutes

March 22, 2013

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
MINUTES OF AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR
EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT**

March 22, 2013
Second Floor
Conference Center

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23233-1463

- CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m.
- PRESIDING:** Bernadette Winters, Chair
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jennifer Blosser
Yvonne Haynes
Susan Horne-Quatannens
Nettie Simon-Owens
- STAFF PRESENT:** Catherine Chappell, Executive Director
Sarah Georgen, Administrative Assistant
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
- WELCOME AND GOALS:** Dr. Winters welcomed the committee members and stakeholders, and stated that the task of the meeting was to develop an agenda for a future meeting with the MSW granting universities in Virginia and neighboring states.
- She stated that the purpose of the summit was to reach a mutual understanding as to the academic curriculum offered by the universities that they deemed appropriate preparation for ultimate licensing at the LCSW level. She added that in the process, the Board would examine stakeholder roles with respect to academic preparation and licensing.
- PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Sue Roland representing the Virginia Society for Clinical Social Work, Inc. ("VSCSW") provided comment (Attachment 1) regarding the proposed educational summit.
- Aimee Perron Siebert, NASW-VA, expressed her appreciation for Ms. Chappell's attendance at the NASW student conference and asked to consider including professional organizations in the educational summit.
- UPDATE ON OUTREACH EFFORTS:** Ms. Chappell stated that she polled the MSW schools in Virginia, the District of Columbia and West Virginia regarding the interest of attending the summit. She noted that there was considerable interest in participating in the event.
- Ms. Chappell also stated that many schools were interested in participating in video teleconferencing in order for board staff to review licensure requirements with faculty and students. Ms. Chappell and Ms.

Horne-Quatannens had both recently provided presentations to the Catholic University of America.

Ms. Chappell advised that she presented licensure information at the NASW student conference. She spoke to approximately 100 students who had many questions about the licensure process, workforce issues, criminal background, syllabi and practicum concerns.

DISCUSSION:

The ad hoc committee members discussed possible dates to hold the educational summit and determined that staff would poll the schools to determine if May 24, 2013 or June 14, 2013 could be possible dates to hold the meeting.

The ad hoc committee members agreed that the proposed agenda would include a presentation by Ms. Chappell on the role of the Board, a presentation by a representative of CSWE on academic accreditation, a presentation by educators on their respective curriculum as it prepares students to seek licensure, a roundtable discussion on the roles that the board, educators and the professional associations play in the licensure process and public comment.

The goals for the summit include clarity of educational curriculum meeting the requirements for licensure, the roles of the schools, and a system to keep the board updated regarding curriculum changes.

ADJOURN:

There being no further discussion, the ad hoc committee adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Bernadette Winters, Chair

Catherine Chappell, Executive Director

**VSCSW PUBLIC COMMENT TO AD HOC COMMITTEE
MARCH 22, 2013**

The VSCSW appreciates the opportunity to make public comment to the Ad Hoc Committee. We see the VBSW initiative for the Educational Summit as an opportunity for the Social Work stakeholders to work in an inclusive and collaborative way to ensure that the Educational standards set by the VBSW for LCSW licensure are clearly known and easily understood by all applicants and are at a sufficient level to ensure that the public is protected.

LCSWs play a critical role in the fabric of mental health treatment services available in Virginia. The VBSW assures the competent and safe practice of clinical social work and the protection of the public health, safety and welfare.

It is important that all three foundations of the profession of social work collaborate with the Educational Summit effort in order to provide a strong Social Work workforce to meet the needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The three foundations of the Social Work profession are:

- Social Work Regulation-The Virginia Board of Social Work
- The Professional Associations- VSCSW, GWSCSW and NASW VA and
- The Schools of Social Work: VCU, NSU, GMU and RU

The Education Summit provides an opportunity to reignite an important dialogue among the VBSW, the Schools of Social Work, and the Professional Associations. The members of the VSCSW, the GWSCSW and NASW VA have critical awareness of the knowledge, skills and abilities that a clinical social worker who is providing services to Virginia mental health consumers must process. Our input from the practice arena will help assure that the VBSW's Educational Summit seeks to establish educational standards that are directly related to current clinical social work practice

The VSCSW request that part of the Educational Summit include a discussion of any regulatory language that the VBSW is considering to implement SB1011. In some respects the passage of SB1011 represents a breakdown of the communication and problem solving efforts of the three foundations of the social work profession.

In order to not have disruptions in communication in the future the VSCSW recommends that the VBSW create a structure of ongoing dialogue among the three foundations of the profession to meet regularly and provide for communications as the field advances with new research and new issues arises that are yet unforeseen. We suggest that the meetings occur at least semi-annually.

The VSCSW includes in today's public comment a compiling of some data for the years 2011-2012 concerning:

- the number of applicants for the LCSW license
- the number of denials to sit for the LCSW exam
- the pass/fail rates for the Virginia CSWE accredited schools

VSCSW feels it is important for the Educational Summit to have as much data as possible to consider when evaluating issues so that the decisions are made with consideration for a clear view of the scope and size of various aspects of the educational issues.