

ADVISORY BOARD ON OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Minutes

July 28, 2009

The Advisory Board on Occupational Therapy met on July 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Loveland, O.T., OTD, Chair
Jean A. Hearst, O.T., Vice-Chair
Eugenio Monasterio, MD
Aurora Stelz, OT
Eleanor Levi

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Gerald Milsky, VOTA
Michele Stoll, VOTA
Chelsea Miller, HDJN, P.C.
Charissa Foster, HDJN

A Public Hearing was held to receive comments on proposed regulations for licensure of occupational therapy assistants. Mr. Milsky made comments in support of the regulations, with one technical suggestion as provided by Ms. Stoll. She suggested changing the word "personnel" to occupational therapy assistant in § 18 VAC 85-80-110 B, to strike section D completely, or at least delete "and countersign" in the last sentence of section D.

CALL TO ORDER

Jeffrey Loveland called the meeting to order.

Let it be noted for the record that Dr. Loveland announced the Emergency Egress Procedures prior to the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF February 3, 2009

Dr. Monasterio moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Jean Hearst moved to adopt the agenda, with the addition of item #3-Reactivation of an occupational therapy license. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

#1. Supervisory Responsibility of Occupational Therapy Assistants

Ms. Yeatts explained the regulation process and the need to request a six month extension for approval of the proposed regulations, 18 VAC85-80-10. The board discussed section 18 VAC85-80-110, Supervisory responsibilities of an occupational therapist. Ms. Yeatts said that she would re-write this section based on advisory board discussion and public comment and prepare a draft for the Advisory board's review in October.

#2. Questions about Constraint-Induced Therapy

Mr. Loveland presented an email from Janis Johnson asking about the use of unlicensed assistants in pediatric constraint-induced therapy. The issue was discussed, and it determined that the contribution of unlicensed assistants in constraint-induced therapy could not involve any act of occupational therapy.

#3. Reactivation of an Occupational Therapy License

Mr. Loveland explained the difficulty many occupational therapists are having obtaining Board-approved practices as a requirement to reactivate or reinstate a lapsed license. He shared with the board that James Madison University has created a "special student" status for OT's to complete practice hours necessary to the process of reactivation/reinstatement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

October 6, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

Eleanor Levi moved to adjourn the meeting of the Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jeffrey Loveland, O.T., OTD, Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Tamara Farmer, Licensing Specialist