

ADVISORY BOARD ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Minutes

October 5, 2020

Electronic Meeting

The Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis held a virtual meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020 hosted at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amanda Kusterer, LABA Vice-Chair
Mark Llobell, Citizen Member
Christina Giuliano, LBA
Autumn Kaufman, LBA

MEMBERS ABSENT: Asha Patton Smith, MD

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Michael Sobowale, LLM, Deputy Director, Licensure
Colanithia Morton Opher, Deputy Director, Administration
Jennifer Deschenes, JD, Deputy Director, Discipline
Pamela Smith, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: Christy Evanko, BCBA, VABA
Julianne Condrey
Sara Zeinert

Call to Order

Amanda Kusterer called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Emergency Egress Procedures

Dr. Harp announced the emergency egress instructions.

Roll Call

Ms. Smith called the roll, and a quorum was declared.

Introduction of Members

Amanda Kusterer asked the members to individually introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes of May 20, 2019

Mark Llobell moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2019 meeting with a minor edit to correct the pronoun beside Ms. Opher's name on page 2. Christina Giuliano seconded. By roll call vote, the minutes were approved with the amendment.

Adoption of Agenda

Mark Llobell moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Giuliano. By roll call vote, the agenda was adopted as presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (15 minutes)

Christy Evanko, BCBA, had a question on the requirement for a National Practitioners' Data Bank (NPDB) query report for behavior analyst and assistant behavior analyst license applicants. She was seeking to clarify what she thought to be a discrepancy between the instructions provided in the online application form and requirements for licensure in the regulation. Ms. Evanko also inquired whether there was a way for certified behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts to continue working while waiting for their license in Virginia. She inquired that, perhaps, license reciprocity through the Board joining a licensure compact might be one way that this could be achieved.

Dr. Harp responded to her concerns. He explained that a NPDB self-query report is required for those working in the field of behavioral analysis prior to applying for licensure in the state. This would depend on the chronology of employment history and practice experience listed by the applicant on the application.

In response to Ms. Evanko's request to hear about how the Board of Medicine decided not to join the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact), Dr. Harp said that joining the Compact would lead to an increase in fees for the applicants and require the Board to hire additional personnel to process letters of qualification. There were also statutory issues of concern. The Board reasoned that it could offer a less costly, equally expeditious alternative with licensure by endorsement, for which the foundation was already in the law. Since December 2018, licensure by endorsement has been a successful and popular pathway to licensure for physicians..

Amanda Kusterer requested to add further discussion on this topic to the Advisory Board agenda for the next meeting.

New Business

1. Regulatory Update and Report of the 2020 General Assembly

Mrs. Yeatts provided a regulatory update and report of the 2020 General Assembly. She discussed bills of interest to members, including HB 65 which creates the Virginia Missing Child with Autism Alert Program and SB 177 which continues the Autism Advisory Council until 2022.

2. Approval of 2021 Meeting Calendar

Mark Llobell moved to approve the proposed 2021 meeting dates for the Advisory Board as presented. Autumn Kauffman seconded the motion. By roll call vote, members voted approval of the 2021 schedule of meetings.

3. Election of Officers

Ms. Christina Giuliano nominated herself for Chair. Amanda Kusterer nominated Autumn Kaufman as Vice-Chair. Both motions were seconded by Mark Llobell. By roll call vote, Christina Giuliano was elected Chair, and Autumn Kaufman was elected Vice-Chair.

Announcements

Ms. Opher informed the Advisory Board that there are currently 1,516 Behavior Analysts and 191 Assistant Behavior Analysts licensed by the Board.

Next Meeting Date

Next scheduled meeting: January 25, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Adjournment

With no other business to conduct, Ms. Kusterer adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Christina Giuliano, BCBA, LBA
Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Pamela Y. Smith, Licensing Specialist