

APPROVED
THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

The Regulatory Committee of the Virginia Board of Social Work ("Board") meeting convened at 12:00 noon on Friday, October 11, 2007 at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Susan Horne-Quatannens, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Charles R. Chambers, Jr.
Willie T. Greene, Sr.
Susan Horne-Quatannens
Wayne Martin
Jill Smeltzer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Emily Wingfield, Chief Deputy Director
Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, Agency Policy Analyst
Arnice N. Covington, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Boehm, Chair, Board of Social Work
Dolores Paulson, Board Member

ORDERING OF AGENDA

Ms. Horne-Quatannens opened the floor to any changes in the order of the Agenda. The Agenda was accepted. (Mr. Martin, Chair of the Committee arrived at this point and proceeded.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Martin noted that no one from the public was in attendance.

Proposed Regulations for Continuing Education for Licensed Social Workers – Wayne Martin/Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts reviewed the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. It was noted that the Board recently considered a reduction from 30 hours to 20 hours each biennium. A motion was made by Mr. Chambers to adopt the NOIRA on continuing education. The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously. This will be presented to the Board Meeting on Friday, October 12, 2007.

Examinations – Staff Concerns

Ms. Brown commented that staff has concerns regarding setting a time limit for taking the examination once an applicant has been approved and the number of times an applicant can take the examination. Also discussed was whether an applicant who fails the examination three (3) or four (4) times should wait a specific time period before reexamination and any remedial action or reapplication. Following discussion Ms. Horne-Quatannens made a motion to ask staff to poll other states to see how they handle reexamination. The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously.

Following discussion a motion was made by Ms. Smeltzer to add this to the Agenda for the Regulatory Committee Meeting January 10, 2008. The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously.

Ms. Smeltzer made a motion to present the following information from the Psychology Regulations for consideration at the Board Meeting on Friday, October 12, 2007: 18 VAC125-20-80. General Examination requirements. B., “A candidate approved by the board to sit for an examination shall take that examination within two years of the date of the initial board approval. If the candidate has not taken the examination by the end of the two-year period here prescribed, the applicant shall reapply according to the requirements of the regulations in effect at that time.” The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously.

It was decided that other issues regarding examinations would be discussed at the January 10, 2008 Regulatory Committee Meeting.

Also discussed was the current Registration of Supervision form and the need for changes.

Presentation regarding Clinical Course Work – Dolores Paulson

Ms. Brown advised that a request regarding the need to be more specific in the language regarding “clinical coursework” had been received. As a result of the request Mr. Boehm asked Ms. Paulson to Chair a Task Force Committee to define “Clinical Course of Study.” Ms. Brown stated that Valerie Carter-Williams, former Board Chair, and current contract reviewer for the Board, would provide guidance as needed.

Ms. Paulson reviewed her report with the Committee and stated that her research was continuing and more information would be forthcoming for the January 10, 2008 Regulatory Committee Meeting. Following discussion it was decided that the Chairs of the Programs for the four (4) Virginia schools would be invited to the January 10, 2008 Regulatory Meeting. Ms. Wingfield, Chief Deputy of the Department of Health Professions, will be responsible for coordinating the invitations to the schools.

Following discussion Ms. Horne-Quatannens made a motion to recommend to the Board that a NOIRA be issued to define “Clinical Course of Study.” The motion was properly seconded and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Regulatory Committee Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Wayne Martin, Chair

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director