

RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN DENTISTRY

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

25 January 2012

A meeting of the Board of Examiners in Dentistry was held on the above date at the RI Department of Health, Beck Conference Room, Providence, Rhode Island. A quorum was established and the Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Board members in attendance were: Board members not in attendance were:

Craig VanDongen, DDS, Chairman Mary Lou Buonaccorsi

Christine Benoit, DMD, Vice-Chairwoman Thomas Bertrand, MPH

Carleton Cappuccino, DMD Louis Marciano

Henry Levin, DMD

Joseph G. Samartano, Jr., DDS

Robert Bartro, DMD

Maureen Ross, RDH

Susan Perlini, RDH, Secretary

Robert Ricci, Ed.D

Staff members in attendance were: Others in attendance were:

Gail Giuliano, Board Administrator Kerri Friel, RI Dental Assistants Association

Dr. Jeffrey Dodge, RI Dental Association

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the Open Minutes of 21 December 2011. Upon motion of Dr. Levin, seconded by Dr. Benoit, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

Dental Licensure

The following individuals were issued dental licenses since the last meeting:

Marcia Carstos Vassiliki, DMD

Christopher Vanderpool, DDS

Dental Hygiene Licensure

The following individuals were issued dental hygiene licenses since the last meeting:

Claudia Rodriguez, RDH,

Chantell Champoux, RDH

Dental Hygiene Licenses w/ local anesthesia permit

None issued

Dental Hygiene Anesthesia Permits

None issued

At this time, the Administrator advised that the Director, Dr. Fine, has scheduled a meeting to be held on February 1, 2012 to discuss the proposal of adding a “certified dental assistant” member to the Board of Examiners in Dentistry. He advised legislation would have to be enacted to create a certified dental assistant position. The Board is in full support of adding a certified dental assistant position to the board.

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The Board reviewed correspondence from the RI Dental Association (RIDA) seeking the Board's formal position with regard to the creation of mid-level dental providers. i.e. Dental Health Aid Therapists, Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioners etc. After discussion, the Chairman advised that it is premature for the Board to establish a formal position at this time. He advised the Board will issue its formal position upon introduction and or passage of legislation.

Members were provided with an article entitled "Why are Dentists Opposing Expanded Dental Care". This was provided for informational purposes only.

Dr. Christine Benoit represented RI at the annual ADEX meeting of the Northeast Regional Board (NERB) meeting held in Orlando on January 19, 2012. She provided a brief summary of the topics that were covered including the following: examinations, board member participation in the administration of the NERB examinations, Mid-level dental providers and the need to develop pertinent examinations top license and or certify these individuals. The Administrator thanked Dr. Benoit for her comprehensive report, but stressed the fact that although this is valuable information for members of NERB and of interest to the Board, Board members should be aware that participation in NERB is separate and apart from Board business.

At this time, the Chairman, called for a motion to adjourn the “Open Session” and enter into “Closed Executive Session” for the purpose of discussing disciplinary matters pursuant to the applicable exceptions of the “Open Meeting Law”, so called of Chapter 42-46-5 sub-division (1) and (4) of the General Laws. Upon motion by Dr. Bartro, seconded by Dr. Levin, the Board entered into closed session at 9:10 a.m.

At this time Dr. Dodge and Ms. Friel excused themselves from the meeting.

The Board returned to “Open Session” at 9:25 am.

Decisions Ratified and/or closed in Closed Session

The following cases were closed with findings of No Unprofessional Conduct:

DEN 63-11 and DEN 67-11

Sealing of the Closed Executive Minutes

The Chairman called for a motion to seal the minutes of the “Closed Executive Session” of 21 December 2011 meeting pursuant to Section 42-46 (1) and (2). Upon motion of Dr. Samartano, seconded by Maureen Ross, the Board voted unanimously to seal the closed minutes of that meeting as presented.

At this time, the Administrator advised that she would be taking a leave effective January 27, 2012 and Catherine Cordy and Linda Phillips would be providing support services to the Board in her absence.

The next meeting of the Board will be held 15 February 2012 at 8:30 am in the Beck Conference Room.

Upon motion of Dr. Levin, seconded by Ms, Perlini, it was unanimously VOTED by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail P. Giuliano, Administrator

RI Board of Examiners in Dentistry