

RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN DENTISTRY

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

14 March 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 Chairwoman called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

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

Christine Benoit, DMD, Acting-Chairwoman Robert Bartro, DMD

Carleton Cappuccino, DMD Louis Marciano

Henry Levin, DMD Robert Ricci, Ed D

Joseph G. Samartano, Jr., DDS

Thomas Bertrand, MPH

Susan Perlini, RDH, BS, Secretary

Maureen Ross, RDH, BS

Staff members in attendance were: Others in attendance were:

Linda Phillips, Board Administrator Kerri Friel, RI Dental Assistants Association

Patrick Kelly, RPH Lynn McShane, President RIDAA

Bruce McIntyre, ESQ

Linda Julian

The Acting-Chairwoman, Dr Benoit called for a motion to approve the OPEN Minutes of 15 February 2012. Upon motion of Dr. Samartano, seconded by Dr. Levin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

Dental Licensure

None issued

Dental Hygiene Licensure

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

Alexander, Sarah Elizabeth, RDH

Dental Hygiene Licenses w/ local anesthesia permit

None issued

Dental Hygiene Anesthesia Permits

None issued

At this time, there was a discussion about licensure. Dr Samartano said that currently licenses are being issued prior to the Board meeting which is in conflict the dental practice act. Bruce McIntyre said that the

Department, as in many other states, is trying to expedite the

process by delegating the approval to a staff member if it is a rudimentary license or that applicant has been previously licensed in another state.

RI Board of Examiners in Dentistry

OPEN Minutes - 14 March 2012

Page 2

Bruce recommended that once the internal review was done, then perhaps the licensed potential applicants could be reviewed in the Committee meeting and a licensing report would be issued in Committee. This review in Committee would follow the Dental Practice Act. Dr Levin made a motion to accept the recommendation and was seconded by Maureen Ross.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the ADA seeking the Board's support of a portfolio-style exam

for purposes of initial licensure. After discussion a motion was made by Dr. Levin to keep the current method testing through the NERB, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Cappuccino. There was a unanimous decision for the RI Dental Board to send a letter to the

ADA President letting him know that

we prefer the current method of testing through the NERB, in lieu of the portfolio-style exam.

We received a Legislative update on the proposed legislation that would allow one certified dental assistant to serve as a member of the Board of Examiners in Dentistry. The Board unanimously agreed to send letters of support for the proposed legislation.

Regulatory issues discussed involved the need to clarify the Rules and Regulations for a Volunteer Dentist License. Linda Phillips asked to table this issue until the April meeting since an application form is in the process of being developed.

The Board discussed a program which offers a refresher course for dental hygienists. Maureen Ross said there are many organizations that could endorse such a program but reminded us that it is not within the purview of the Board to endorse any particular for profit program. The Board unanimously agreed.

The ADHA sent a survey about the non surgical use of lasers by dental hygienists to disinfect perio pockets. The Board unanimously decided that Dr Benoit as acting Chair, should answer the survey in accordance with the RI Dental Practice Act.

The AADB is soliciting nominations for the Citizen of the year award.

The award will be given at the annual of the AADB. The RI Board is putting out a call for nominations for this prestigious award.

The nominee's CV is due no later than June 1,2012. We will table the nominations until the next Board Meeting.

Dr. Benoit will represent the RI Dental Board at the AADA mid-year meeting in Chicago, IL on April 21-23, 2012.

Our long time dedicated public member Mary Lou Buonaccorsi has submitted a letter of resignation, resigning from the RI Dental Board. The Board voted unanimously that a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board be sent to Ms. Buonaccorsi for her years of service.

At this time, the chairwoman, called for a motion to adjourn the "OPEN Session" and enter into the "CLOSED Executive Session" for the purpose of discussing disciplinary matters pursuant to the applicable exceptions of the "Open Meeting Law", so called Chapter 42-46-5 sub-division (1) and (4) of the General Laws. Upon motion by Dr.Samartano, seconded by Dr. Levin, the Board entered into CLOSED session at 9:53 a.m.

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

The Board returned to OPEN Session at 11:35 am.

RI Board of Examiners in Dentistry

OPEN Minutes - 14 March 2012

Page 3

Decisions Ratified and/or closed in Closed Session

There are no reports from the committees at this time.

Sealing of the Closed Executive Minutes

The Chairman called for a motion to seal the minutes of the “CLOSED Executive Session” of 25 January 2012 meeting pursuant to Section 42-46 (1) and (2). Upon motion of Dr. Samartano, seconded by Dr. Levin, the Board voted unanimously to seal the CLOSED minutes of that meeting as presented.

The next meeting of the Board will be held 18 April 2012 at 8:45 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 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Perlini

**Susan Perlini, RDH, BS, Secretary
RI Board of Examiners in Dentistry**