

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION

Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters

3 CAPITOL HILL
CONFERENCE ROOM 104
PROVIDENCE RI 02908
February 26, 2015 8:45 am

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Healey, James,
Lancia, Michael (chair)
Melusky, Edward

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Atkinson, Cathy

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Coleman, Amy (Department Legal Counsel)
Simoli, Mike (Health Program Administrator)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Demming, Shelley – (Allied Court Reporters, CART Services)
Edward Sullivan – Hearing Aid Dealer Temporary Permit Applicant

1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters was held on Thursday, February 26, 2015, at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:40 am on a motion by Edward Melusky and seconded by Michael Lancia. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the May 9 2013 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Edward Melusky and seconded by Michael Lancia to accept the Open Session minutes of May 9 2013. The board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. Confidentiality Agreements

Board members signed confidentiality agreements now required of all HEALTH professional boards. The forms will be kept in the Office of Health Professionals Regulation.

4. HEALTH staffing

Linda Phillips retired from state service on December 19, 2014. In the interim, her board-related responsibilities have been delegated to different employees. A replacement is currently being recruited. Mike Simoli will act as board manager for the Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters until a new board manager is hired to fill the role.

5. Annual Board Meeting Calendar

Mike Simoli handed out the 2015 meeting calendar for the Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters.

6. Edward Sullivan – Request to Re-Apply for Hearing Aid Dealer Temporary Permit

Edward Sullivan attended part of the Open Session to request that the board allow him to either renew, reinstate, or re-apply for his Hearing Aid Dealer Temporary Permit. It was issued on 04/08/2012 and therefore expired 04/08/2013. He attempted to renew it in February 2015 but it would have expired 04/08/2015. He is asking for his Hearing Aid Dealer Temporary Permit for another year so he can take the written and practical examination.

7. Application Review Process

Following the request of the Director of Health, all boards including the Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters must select a designee to review license applications (primary reviewer) as well as a back-up in case the first designee is not available (secondary reviewer). The reviewers must be of the same license type as the board (i.e., Hearing Aid Dealer/Fitter).

James Healey made a motion to select Michael Lancia as the primary reviewer and Cathy Atkinson as the secondary reviewer. Edward Melusky seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. Practical Examination Schedule

The practice of using regularly scheduled board meeting dates as practical examination dates will continue. The next board meeting date would have been April 23, 2015. In lieu of a board meeting, this date will be used to give a practical examination to a license applicant, Charles Balyozian.

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by James Healey and seconded by Edward Melusky to adjourn to Closed Session at 9:30am. Motion carried. Pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting. Also, pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct.

Motion to Return to Open Session

Motion was made by James Healy and seconded by Michael Lancia at 10:15am to re-open the Open Session and to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5, and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Motion carried.

Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

The board reviewed five license applications.

One application was approved for hearing aid dealer/fitter temporary permit.

One applicant will be asked to re-apply for a hearing aid dealer/fitter temporary permit.

One applicant was deemed ready for written examination.

Two applicants were deemed ready for practical examination.

There were no complaints before the board at this session.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters will be held July 9, 2015 at 8:45 am at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence RI, 02908 unless that date and time is selected to hold a Hearing Aid Dealer/Fitter Practical Examination. Motion was made by James Healey and seconded by Michael Lancia to adjourn at 10:20am. Motion carried.

Submitted by Mike Simoli, Health Program Administrator
Office of Health Professionals Regulation
Rhode Island Department of Health