

**BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE**

**FULL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**9 May 2007**

**Open Session**

**Minutes**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

**Patrick Barry, Esq.**

**Thomas Breslin, MD**

**Norm Chapman**

**Margaret Coughlin**

**Charles Cronin, DO**

**Robert Dinwoodie, DO**

**Joseph DiPietro, Esq.**

**Richard P. Iacobucci, MD**

**Noubar Kessimian MD**

**Agnes R. Lapointe**

**Henry Litchman, MD**

**Shelagh McGowan**

**Board Members Absent:**

**David R. Gifford, MD, MPH, Chair**

**Staff Members in Attendance:**

**Robert S. Crausman, MD, Chief Administrative Officer**

**Linda Julian, Board Investigator**

**Filomena Watson, Executive Assistant**

**Staff Members Absent:**

**Bruce W. McIntyre, Board General Counsel**

**Mary Salerno, Administrative Officer**

**1. A quorum was established at 8:30 AM. New Board Public Member Agnes R. Lapointe, who is replacing the late Dorothy Williams, was introduced to Board Membership.**

**2. On a motion by Dr. Litchman seconded by Dr. Kessimian it was voted to approve the minutes of the 3 May 2007 Licensing Committee.**

**3. On a motion by Mr. DiPietro seconded by Dr. Kessimian it was voted to approve the minutes of the Open Session of the 11 April 2007 meeting.**

**4. Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

**A. The invitation from the Maine Board of Licensing for the June 25th & 26th all New England and New York meeting was reviewed with the Board. Members are asked to RSVP to the BMLD by next Monday.**

**B. Issues relating to physician health and the observation that physicians often do not attend to their own health care were**

discussed.

**C. The regulations regarding the granting of the Emeritus Status to licensees was also reviewed. Specifically when a physician has attained the age of 70 and has had 15 years of practice in Rhode Island they can formally request that their status be changed to “Emeritus,” which offers all of the rights and privileges of a full license but with a 90% reduction in licensing fee. Dr. Crausman facilitated discussion regarding recommending regulatory change to require that a physician attest to having had a general medical examination as an additional condition for granting this status. Recent discussions with the Rhode Island Medical Society and the Physicians Health Committee were related to the Board. The PHC has given its support to the recommendation. The Board voted to recommend that the Department of Health initiate the process to make this regulatory change to RIGL 5-37-7.6.**

**D. It was voted to forward the draft letter regarding the role of the advanced practice clinician to Dr. Gifford in his role as Director of Health. Dr. Robert Dinwoodie will be the signatory for the Board.**

**E. The telemedicine group discussed its progress towards defining the physician/patient relationship. Dr. Crausman shared with them the recent “State of the State Boards” publication put out by the Federation of State Medical Boards in which there is a lengthy discussion regarding rogue Internet prescribing. This information**

**will be useful to the telemedicine subcommittee in drafting the Board's policy statement.**

**5. Old Business:**

**None**

**6. New business:**

**None**

**7. At 9:10 AM the Board adjourned to Executive Session pursuant to Sections 46-42-4 and 42-46-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws.**