

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS
AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**

February 17, 2006

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Open Session of the Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists was called to order at 10:00 am on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended. A quorum was established.

Board members in attendance:

Dale Blumen

Joseph Costa

Terrance Giblin

James Pinel

John Roche

Board Members not in attendance:

Ronald Mancini

Staff members in attendance:

Donna Dickerman

The minutes of the meeting held September 16, 2005 were presented. On motion by Terrance Giblin, seconded by James Pinel, it was unanimously voted to accept the Open Session minutes as presented.

The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the following mental health counselor applications for licensure pending successful completion of the national examination:

Brent Thibault Marianne Scorpio Michelle Harrington

Tammy Cirioni Mary Ewart Cordelia Wheelock

Erin Kelly Heather Razza Susan Jacobsen

Jennifer Flauss (pending completion of supervisor practice form – missing one field)

Marianne Scorpio (pending receipt of official transcript)

Kelly Faria (pending completion of three credits in Spring of 2006)

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Members reviewed a communication from NBCC stating the clinical

portion of the national certification exam used for licensure in Ohio, while different in format/administration, it tests similar mental health counseling knowledge, skills and abilities. Further, the content of the exams for Ohio and Rhode Island is derived from the same job analysis. Board members unanimously agreed to accept applicants who have taken the Ohio NCMHCE.

The 2006 board meeting schedule was reviewed. The schedule will remain as is, pending the need for an increase or decrease in meetings.

Members reviewed a request from an applicant planning to seek Rhode Island licensure. The future applicant graduated from the University of Missouri with 48 credits, therefore, requires 12 credits for Rhode Island eligibility. The future applicant requested approval of a group counseling and counseling theory course from Providence College, which may be similar to courses she has previously taken. As the core curriculum does not address levels of coursework, i.e., introductory, advanced, etc., but denotes only the number of credits required, the request is approved.

Adjournment to Executive Session

On a motion by James Pinel, seconded by Terrance Giblin, it was unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 (a)(1)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws, as Amended, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure

and investigative cases will be discussed. Complaints addressed: MHC#3-2004, MHC#1-2005 and MHC#3-2005.

Return to Open Session

The Open Session was called back to order. On motion of Dale Blumen, seconded by John Roche, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed. Final action: Complaint MHC#1-2006 was dismissed with a finding of no unprofessional conduct.

Adjournment

On motion of Joseph Costa, seconded by James Pinel, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Dickerman

Board Administrator

Health Professionals Regulation