

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

APRIL 21, 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

Ronald Mancini

Terrance Giblin

James Pinel

Board Members not in attendance:

John Roche

Joseph Costa

Staff members in attendance:

Donna Dickerman

Gregory Madoian, Legal Counsel

The minutes of the meeting held February 17, 2006 were presented. On motion by Terrance Giblin, seconded by Dale Blumen, 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:

- Shawn Thomas - Christopher Hebert - Nancy Delsesto

The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the following mental health counselor application for licensure by endorsement:

- Shulba Swamy (pending receipt of exam scores)

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The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the following marriage and family therapist application for licensure pending successful completion of the national examination:

- John Moynehan

The Board reviewed and approved a request from a mental health counselor to waive the continuing education requirements for the period July 2004 thru June 30, 2006, due to a severe medical illness.

Upon members reviewing the Code of Ethics from the American Counseling Association, the Board unanimously voted to continue to use the Code of Ethics of the National Board of Certified Counselors in considering ethical issues of mental health counselors.

Members reviewed a yellow pages phone book advertisement for hypnotherapy for the purposes of motivation, stress, habit change, smoking cessation, weight control, fears, confidence, sports, career skills, chronic pain. The Board unanimously agreed hypnotherapy is within the scope of practice of mental health counseling as it addresses emotional and mental health issues. Smoking and obesity have a DSM diagnosis code. The advertiser, John Koenig, does not hold a mental health counselor license, and therefore, shall be issued a letter of cease and desist.

Adjournment to Executive Session

On a motion by Terrance Giblin, seconded by Ronald Mancini, 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. Complaint addressed: MHC#3-2004.

Return to Open Session

The Open Session was called back to order. On motion of Dale Blumen, seconded by James Pinel, 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.

Adjournment

On motion of Ronald Mancini, 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