

**BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
MINUTES OF MEETING**

May 6, 2013

Open Session

The Open Session of the Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists was called to order at 10:02 am on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, 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: Board Members not in attendance:

Terrence Giblin, Chair Joseph Costa

Noelle Harris

Ronald Mancini Staff members in attendance:

James Pinel J. Michel Martineau

Elizabeth Johnson

Dale Blumen. Others Present:

Dimity Peter

Kalina Brabeck

Monica Darcy

The Minutes of the open session held on March 1, 2013 were presented. Terrence Giblin and other Members note an inaccuracy; the result of a vote is listed as no, when the accurate result was yes. On motion of Terrence Giblin, seconded by Noelle Harris, it was unanimously voted to amend the Minutes to make the correction. On motion of Terrence Giblin, seconded by Noelle Harris, it was unanimously voted to accept the amended Minutes. The Minutes of the executive session held on March 1, 2013 were presented. On motion of Terrence Giblin, seconded by Dale Blumen, it was unanimously voted to accept the Minutes.

Members express disappointment that the proposed amendments to Law previously approved by the board remain stalled as the Department of Health awaits approval from Craig Stenning at RI BHDDH.

Adjournment to Executive Session

On motion of Terrence Giblin, seconded by James Pinel, it was unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, as Amended, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure and investigative cases will be discussed. The Open Session adjourned at 10:21 am.

Return to Open Session

The Open Session was called back to order at 10:32 am. On motion

of James Pinel, seconded by Ronald Mancini, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Closed Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.

Monica Darcy, Kalina Brabeck, and Dimity Peter are invited to the meeting. The visitors and board members revisit the matter of RIC seeking CACREP accreditation and the disadvantage that will occur to their students as RI regulations preclude them from counting supervised hours until they complete the Masters program, unlike students who are allowed to accrue hours as part of a CAGS program, and the same hours are counted towards the 2,000 requirement. CAGS and possibly others counting the hours twice is referenced as “double dipping” while noting under the current interpretation this is legitimate. Board members indicate a change in the law may be necessary to undo the so called disadvantage. The administrator indicates he will review this matter with legal counsel.

Board members indicate they support CACREP accreditation and the 60 credit benchmark for a Masters degree as it represents raising the standard of their profession. RIC faculty indicate they believed RI was moving to mandate CACREP accreditation, board members indicate that is not correct, they support CACREP but do not support mandating CACREP. The visitors depart the meeting room.

Members discuss the request for reinstatement from Peter Maynard.

A motion to allow reinstatement is made by Terrence Giblin, seconded by James Pinel; it was unanimously voted to allow reinstatement following Department protocol.

A member circulates a proposed amendment to State Law 5-63.2-10. Members indicate it will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Having no further business, on motion of Terrence Giblin, seconded by Noelle Harris, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michel Martineau

Health Policy Analyst