

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION  
BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
THERAPISTS

3 CAPITOL HILL  
CONFERENCE ROOM 104  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Friday, June 12, 2015

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dale Blumen, LMFT  
Joseph Costa, Public Member  
Terrence Giblin, LMFT, LMHC, Board Chairperson  
Noelle Harris, LMHC  
Elizabeth Johnson, LMFT  
Ronald Mancini, LMHC

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

James Pinel, LMHC

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Thomas Corrigan, Legal Counsel  
Arlene Hartwell, Board Manager  
Alana Rodriguez, Board Manager

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Judith Drew, Salve Regina University  
Kate Siner Francis, LLC  
Robert P. Landau, Esq., Roberts, Carroll, Feldstein & Pierce, Inc.

1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists was held on Friday, June 12, 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 10:06 AM on a motion by Dale Blumen and seconded by Noelle Harris. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the January 9, 2015 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Ronald Mancini and seconded by Elizabeth Johnson to accept the Open Session minutes of January 9, 2015. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. Board Manager Report

Arlene Hartwell informed the board that the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) Foundation Symposium will convene on May 25-27, 2016.

4. New Business

- The board voted unanimously to adopt the NBCC Code of Ethics in addition to the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Code of Ethics.
- Attorney Landau inquired about the code of ethics for Marriage and Family Therapists. Arlene Hartwell responded that the board adopts the code of ethics for each profession annually.
- Noelle Harris stated that it is the responsibility of the administrators at Colorado Christian University to determine if their curriculum meets the requirements in the Rules and Regulations for Licensing Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. Arlene Hartwell will notify the University.

## 5. Old Business

- Arlene Hartwell informed the board that pursuant to RIGL chapter 5-63.2-6, the board is authorized to recommend to the Director of the Department of Health for his or her approval the adoption, and from time to time, the revision of the rules and regulations not inconsistent with the law that may be necessary to enable it to carry into effect the provisions of the chapter. It is not within the scope of responsibility of the board to amend the law.
  - i. Noelle Harris expressed frustration with the Department of Health because no progress has been made on the significant amount of work done by the board over the course of several meetings to revise the Rules and Regulations for Licensing Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists.
  - ii. Tom Corrigan recommended the creation of a board sub-committee which will be devoted to finalizing proposed revisions, in accordance with CACREP standards, and to determining what actions should be taken to avoid further setbacks in getting the changes implemented.
  - iii. Arlene Hartwell will schedule a sub-committee meeting in late July or early August.

## 6. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by Terrence Giblyn and seconded by Dale Blumen to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:27 AM. 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.

## 7. Motion to return to Open Session

Motion was made by Noelle Harris and seconded by Dale Blumen to re-open the Open Session at 10:46 AM 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.

8. New Business

- Judith Drew informed the board that Salve Regina University will be dually accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs/Clinical Rehabilitation Council on Rehabilitation Education (CACREP/CORE).
  - i. Judith Drew asked if the board will include the CACREP standards in the proposed changes to the rules and regulations for licensing mental health counselors. Noelle Harris responded affirmatively.

9. Motion to re-open Closed Session

Motion was made by Terrence Giblin and seconded by Noelle Harris to adjourn to Closed Session at 11:00 AM. 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.

10. Motion to return to Open Session

Motion was made by Terrence Giblin and seconded by Noelle Harris at to re-open the Open Session at 11:59 AM 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.

11. Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

The board reviewed 8 applications, approved 6, requested additional information on 2; and proposed action on 1 case.

12. Adjournment

The next Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists meeting will be held Friday, October 9, 2015 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Dale Blumen and seconded by Elizabeth Johnson to adjourn at 12:00 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Arlene Hartwell  
Board Manager  
Office of Health Professionals Regulation