

DIVISION OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
THERAPISTS

3 CAPITOL HILL  
CONFERENCE ROOM 104  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Friday, January 20, 2017  
10:43 a.m.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dale Blumen, Chair, MFT  
Elizabeth Johnson, MFT, Secretary  
Joseph Costa, Public member  
Noelle Harris, MHC  
Terrance Giblin, MFT, MHC

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

James Pinel, MHC  
Michelle Gonzalez, Public member  
Ronald Mancini, MHC

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Alana Rodriguez, Board Manager  
Sarah Harrigan, Chief of the Center for Professional Boards and Commissions

## OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Judith Drew, Salve Regina University  
Nancy Gordon, Salve Regina University

### 1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists was held on Friday, January 20, 2017 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 10:43 a.m. on a motion by Dale Blumen and seconded by Terrance Giblin. Motion carried.

### 2. Presentation of the September 30, 2016 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Dale Blumen and seconded by Elizabeth Johnson to accept the Open Session minutes of September 30, 2016. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried.

### 3. Board Manager Report

#### a. Chairperson and Secretary Election

The board elected Dale Blumen as Board Chair and Noelle Harris as Secretary. The board unanimously voted in favor.

### 4. Old Business

#### a. Proposed Rules and Regulations changes for licensure

Noelle Harris presented to the board a draft of proposed regulatory revisions. Sarah Harrigan provided guidance on the regulatory process. The board voted in favor to accept the presented proposed regulatory changes. The board unanimously voted to delegate Noelle Harris and Terrance Giblin to review and/or approve proposed regulatory revisions.

5. New Business

- a. Proposed Legislation(s) regarding Board presented by Sarah Harrigan  
Sarah Harrigan shared with the board the consolidation legislation proposal. The board offered recommendations and expressed concerns with the proposal within the profession and board composition. Sarah expressed gratitude to the board for feedback and expressed concerns.

6. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by Noelle Harris and seconded by Terrance Giblin to adjourn to Closed Session at 11:38 a.m. 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 at 12:35 p.m. to re-open the Open Session 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. Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

- a. The board reviewed and approved one application; and proposed action on five cases.

9. Adjournment

The next Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists meeting will be held Friday, May 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Noelle Harris and seconded by Joseph Costa to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alana Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the "z".

Alana Rodriguez  
Board Manager  
Center for Professional Boards and Commissions