

RHODE ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MIDWIFERY

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 31, 2012

Open Session

The Open Session of the Rhode Island Advisory Council on Midwifery was called to order at 8:00 am on the above date in the Health Policy Forum of the Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Nanni, CNM

Carol Shelton, RN

Mary Mumford Haley, CNM

Elizabeth Howard, PhD, CNM

Susanna Magee, MD

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Amy Leonard

Kristina Duarte, MD

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Charles Alexandre, PhD, RN, Director, Nurse Registration and Nursing Education

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of the meeting of October 18, 2011 were presented. On motion of Ms. Shelton, seconded by Dr. Howard, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

APPLICANTS FOR LICENSURE

No applications for licensure were presented.

BUSINESS

Discussion of proposed revisions to the Rules and Regulations for the Licensing of Midwives

The legislative and regulatory process was discussed as an introduction. The RI Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives has proposed a statutory change to RIGL § 23-13-9 that would authorize the Council/Department to establish a formulary in regulation for non-nurse midwives to carry certain drugs appropriate for home births.

The Council recommended a revision to the regulations to authorize licensure of Certified Professional Midwives (CPM) who have

successfully completed an education program accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC). A draft of proposed regulations was distributed for review. There was significant discussion with respect to licensing CPMs entering the profession via MEAC accredited education programs vs. the portfolio evaluation process. Members of the Board held a dialogue with guests with respect to the role of the CPM and the certification process. The discussion concluded with a request to the Council members to review the draft regulations and make suggestions for additional edits. The Director of Health will be invited to the next Council meeting to inform him about the proposed changes and determine the Department's position on licensing CPMs.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business was conducted. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Alexandre, PhD, RN

Director, Nurse Registration and Nursing Education