

BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 20, 2006

Open Session

The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:10 am on the above date in Room 401, Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Katherine Lukas, RN,MS, CCRN

Lynn Curran, CRNA

Theresa Jeremiah, RN

Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN

Joslin Leasca, RNP

Sharon Smith, RN, MSN, President

Michael Gerhardt

Cristiana Rosa, PCNS, Vice President

Sandra Megerdichian, RN, MS

Jeannine Borozny, RN

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Deborah G. Brown, RN,MSN

Ronita Appiah, RN

Kristen Kamm, LPN

Elizabeth Lamonde, RN

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Pam McCue, RN, MS, Director Nursing Registration and Nursing Education

Betsy James, RN Complaint Officer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ruth Ricciarelli, HARI

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms. Smith called the meeting to order at 8:10 am. A quorum was established.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF OCTOBER 16, 2006

On motion of Ms Rosa, seconded by Ms Lukas it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Smith introduced the Board's newest member, Jeannine Borozny. Ms Borozny stated that she is an operating room nurse and a registered nurse first assist. President Smith requested each Board Member introduce his/herself and the seat they are representing.

DIRECTOR, NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION REPORT

Report given by Pamela McCue, RN, MS, Director, Nurse Registration and Nursing Education

- Electronic renewal for nurses will be ready for 2007 renewals. Another goal is to collect demographic data of nurses through an attached online survey to the renewal process. Ms McCue has been working internally with Chief Alexandre and the staff involved in this process as well as soliciting input from Ruth Ricciarelli, Director of Workforce Development and Marci Bliss, Project Manger of Workforce Development at the Hospital Association of RI. Ms McCue stated she would provide the Board with a fact sheet, per their request, so that each member will be informed and able to answer questions in the community/work place.

- Ms. McCue informed the Board of a seminar she attended in October sponsored by the Association of Healthcare Human Resources Administration of Rhode Island (AHHRARI). The title of the conference was A Hidden Crisis: The Disappearing Workforce. Two topics emerged from the conference that participants identified needed further discussion and consult from the Board of Nursing;

distance learning programs and clinical faculty with the credential of a bachelors of science in nursing (BSN). Ms. McCue stated that these topics will be put on the agenda during the open session of the January Board meeting.

- Ms McCue distributed a list of nurses who were licensed in October 2006. A total of 102 RI nursing licenses were issued.

BUSINESS

DRAFT of Board (Pharmacy) Guidelines for Dispensing by Registered Nurses

- The Board of Pharmacy had requested the input from the Board of Nursing on these proposed guidelines. Ms Leasca had questions related to the guidelines. These questions were posed to Cathy Cordy, Director of the Board of Pharmacy who addressed them. On motion of Ms. Jeremiah, seconded by Ms. Smith it was unanimously passed to support these guidelines as written.

OTHER

Ms. Ricciarelli requested to address the Board for Information purposes only. She notified the Board of the plans to create a Center for Health Professionals. This center would collect workforce data on health care professionals and advocate for creative solutions to the workforce shortage. Ideas include the development of a Clinical Placement Registry, tax credits for full time nursing faculty, ensuring enough masters prepared nursing faculty, and creation of “reentering

into practice” education programs. Ms. Lukas on behalf of the Board thanked her for this information.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms. Lukas, seconded by Ms. Jeremiah, it was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws for discussion of job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licensees and for discussion of investigatory proceedings relating to misconduct by applicants for licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. The Open Session adjourned at 9:05 am.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ms. Smith called the Open Session back to Order at 2:51 pm.

VOTE TO SEAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 42-46-4 AND 42-46-5 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS

On motion of Ms. Leasca, seconded by Ms. Jeremiah, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in the Executive Session and to seal those minutes in as much as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.

PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS

The Board voted to the following actions in Executive Session at today's meeting:

RN06-094 Debra Means Voluntary Surrender

RN02-023 Holly Montigny Reinstate w/ 3 yr probation

PN06-009 Gilbert Burden Probation 1 yr

PN06-089 Carol Mooney Reprimand

RN19-2000 Lisa Paulhus Voluntary Surrender

RN06-027 Kimberly McKethan Suspension

The Board voted No Unprofessional Conduct on the following cases:

NP06-106

RN06-082

PN06-090

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms. Curran, seconded by Ms. Mergerdichian, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:53 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Genevieve Rodrigues**