

**BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Open Session

May 14, 2007

The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:23 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:

Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN

Sharon Smith, RN, MSN, President

Sandra Megerdichian, RN, MS

Jeannine Borozny, RN

Kristen Kamm, LPN

Lynn Curran, CRNA

Deb Brown, RN,MS

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Michael Gerhardt

Katherine Lucas, RN,MS, CCRN

Cristiana Rosa, PCNS

Theresa Jeremiah, RN

Joslin Leasca

Elizabeth Lamonde, RN

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

Betsy James, RN Complaint Officer

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms. Smith called the meeting to order at 08:23am. A quorum established at this time.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF

On motion of Ms Kamm, seconded by Ms Borozny, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes with the following amendments;

Debby Brown was in attendance at the meeting. Add her name to the attendance list.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sharon Smith was requested by the Director of Health to represent the nursing perspective on a state-wide Community Hospital Task Force. All meetings are open to the public.

DIRECTOR, NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION REPORT

- Ms McCue facilitated a focus group of hospital chief nursing officers earlier this month. The results of the focus group were reported to the Community Hospital Task Force as they continue to address the issues faced by RI Community Hospitals.**

- Ms McCue attended three days of orientation at NSCBN headquarters in Chicago. The orientation focused on the resources available to states at NCSBN, the research currently being conducted, opportunities for executive officers to become involved and how the exam is developed, administered and evaluated.**

- The nursing compact bills (S640/H5956) were reported as moving forward in both chambers. The house bill passed committee and is awaiting a floor vote. The Senate bill was passed in the Senate committee and passed a Senate floor vote with an amended date of implementation (June 2008).**

- Charlie Alexandre, Chief of Health Professions Regulation was**

honored by Rhode Island College and received an alumni award for his exemplary achievements in his chosen field.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Radiographic Confirmation of a PICC Placement-Nancy Burdick, Clinical Manger, IVT & Davol SPR, RIH

Ms Burdick and her colleague requested that the Board consider allowing trained IV nurses to confirm placement of a PICC line. Currently the nurse places the line and confirmation is done by a radiologist reading an x-ray. There are 15 states that allow nurses to have this in their scope of practice

The Board requested the following information on this topic;

Practice guidelines

Training competencies

List of states including it in the scope of practice of professional nurses

Letters of support

Discussion was tabled until next month's meeting

b. Complaint Criteria-Betsy James, Complaint Officer

Criteria for streamlining nursing investigations

Ms James presented a proposal to streamline complaints where as the investigator in consultation with the Director of Nursing may dismiss cases not in the jurisdiction of the Board. Ms James notified

the Board that the compliant department receives many complaints that are actually personnel issues within health care organizations and do not rise to the level of unprofessional practice. However, currently all complaints are fully investigated and that file is then transferred to the appropriate licensee disciplinary Board, which usually finds “no unprofessional conduct” on the conduct of the licensee. The Nursing Assistant Board developed such a procedure and it has demonstrated to be successful. This has allowed the cases that pose concern to public safety to be investigated more quickly and brought to the Board quicker for disciplinary decisions.

The Board requested that Ms James develop protocols for the Nursing Board to review and consider. The mater will be discussed again at next month’s meeting.

c. DRAFT Diversion Contract

Ms McCue notified the Board that the DRAFT new Diversion Contract was recommended by a Board member to include language that a nurse may not work the night shift. Ms McCue also added that this contract allows for updating terms as a nurse progress through his/her recovery. Ms Brown made a motion to accept the new Diversion Contract and begin its implementation.

Ms Mergerdichian seconded the motion and the motion was passed, no abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms Brown, seconded by Ms Borozny, 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 9:37am.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ms Smith called the open session back to order at 1:30pm.

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

On motion of adjournment by Ms. Borozny , seconded by Ms. CURRAN , 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 the following actions in Executive Session at today's meeting

RN 04-075 Maureen Streicher- 3 year probation

RN 06-108 Arthur Henson- Reprimand with continuing education

PN07-027 No unprofessional conduct

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Curran