

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

Open Session

December 10, 2007

The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:35am 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:

Sandra Megerdichian, RN, MS

Jeannine Borozny, RN

Lynn Curran, MS, RN, CRNA

Cristiana Rosa, MS, RN, PCNS Vice President

Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN

Sharon Smith, MS, RN, President

Michael Gerhardt

Katherine Lukas RN, MS, CCRN

Kristen Kamm, LPN

Peggy Matteson, RN,MS

Elizabeth Lamonde, RN

Joslin Leasca, RN, MS, RNP

Theresa Jeremiah RN

Catherine Rose, RN,MS

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

Betsy James, RN Complaint Officer

Charles Alexandre, Chief Health Professions Regulation

Elizabeth Shelov

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Ms Smith called the meeting to order at 8:35am. A quorum was established at this time.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms Smith reminded all that the meetings now begin at 8:30am.

Ms Smith brought to the attention of the Board and the participants that Board agendas are posted no later than 48 hours prior to the

meeting, per the “Open Meetings Law”. Spontaneous agenda items cannot be added on the morning of the meeting. Board members and/or the public are encouraged to contact Ms McCue a week before the scheduled Board meeting to request that a topic be included on the next meeting’s agenda.

Ms Smith welcomed the Board’s newest member, Catherine Rose. Board members then introduced themselves one by one. Ms Smith reminded the Board that Ms Rose is replacing Katherine Lukas and that this is Ms Lukas’s last meeting. Ms Smith thanked Ms Lukas on the behalf of the entire Board for her dedication, expertise and service to the Board of Nursing.

DIRECTOR, NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION REPORT

Ms McCue informed the Board that several key people within the Department of Health have retired or would be retiring by the end of the month and they include Don Williams, Bill Waters, Maureen Hobson, and Donna Dickerman. The Board expressed congratulations to these individuals however emphasized that their expertise will be very much missed.

Ms McCue also informed the Board that a FTE has been allocated to the Board of Nursing for a Compliance Officer. An internal staff member of the Department will be transferred from another

department to fill this position. This will take effect on December 17. The new staff person's name is Linda Mouradjian.

Ms McCue notified the Board that the APRN Advisory committee rendered an opinion to the Board on the issue of clinical privileges of APRNs in hospitals. Ms McCue passed out this document and requested that the Board review it and be prepared to discuss it at the January 14th, 2008 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Regulations of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)

Department staff presented recommendations for revision to the nursing regulations regarding the implementation of the NLC. There was brief discussion among the Board members, department staff and members of the public who were in attendance. The Board voted unanimously to move these revisions to community review. The proposed regulations will be disseminated to the interested party list and a community review will be scheduled in January. The Board was encouraged to contact Ms McCue with any questions regarding this.

B. Replacement of a subra public tube by a license nurse

After much discussion, the Board unanimously voted that a RN with appropriate training and deemed competency may replace a subra pubic catheter when the organization's policy allows for such and when the patient's stoma is well established and healed.

C. CE Programs

Donna Policastro, Executive Director of RISNA informed the Board that RISNA developed CE programs that meet the requirements set forth in the Boards 's non-disciplinary alternative program. The first session will be held in March 2007. Ms Policastro also informed the Board that RISNA received money from the Health Partner's Grant to develop a refresher course for nurses.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms Borozny, seconded by Ms. Rosa, 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 9:40am.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ms Smith called the open session back to order at 12:45pm.

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

On motion of Mr. Gerhardt, 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 to the following actions in Executive Session at today's meeting:

RN07-039 Donna Benisch- RN license Reprimanded

RN07-068 No Unprofessional Conduct with a letter of concern

PN07-085 No Unprofessional Conduct with a letter of concern

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms Leasca, seconded by Ms Curran, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:30 pm. .

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Lamonde

Secretary