

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING  
EDUCATION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**OPEN SESSION**

**December 13, 2010**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:35 am on the above date in the auditorium 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 sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended.**

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING**

**Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN**

**Catherine Rose, RN, MS,**

**Joslin Leasca, RN, MS, RNP, President**

**Cristiana Rosa, MS, RN, PCNS**

**Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA, Secretary**

**Linda Twardowski, RN,MS**

**Linda Damon, RN,MS**

**Michelle Cahill, LPN**

**Manuella Reposa**

**Sandra Mergerdichian, RN, MS Vice President**

**Jeannine Borozny, RN**

## **ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS**

**Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD**

**Michael Gerhardt**

**Carol Cairns RN, MS**

**Kristen Young, RN**

## **STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Pamela McCue, RN, MS Director**

**Linda TetuMouradjian, RN**

### **1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

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

### **2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF November 8, 2010**

**On motion of Ms Rose, and seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of November 8, 2010 with the following amendment;**

**“that suturing was in the scope of practice of a RNFA and NP but not in the general RN scope of practice.”**

**This amendment pertained to the topic under New Business;**

**a. Is it within the RN scope of practice to close superficial wounds by using adhesives, adhesive closures, and suturing?**

### **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – No report**

### **4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT –**

**Ms McCue discussed the Board policy regarding the cancellation of Board meetings due to inclement weather. Ms McCue informed the Board that they would be notified via email by 6:30am of the Board meeting day. Ms McCue will also leave a message on her voicemail and provided her direct line (222-1741) for members of the public to access this information.**

**Ms. McCue gave the Board an overview of the keys messages of IOM/RWJF Future of Nursing Report. They include four key messages;**

- 1. Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training**
- 2. Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic preparation**
- 3. Nurses should be full partners with physicians and other health care professionals in redesigning health care in the US**
- 4. Effective workforce planning and policy-making require better data collection and an improved information infrastructure**
- 5. Encourage life-long learning**

**Ms McCue provided insight as to the implications the report had in relation to the work of Boards of Nursing and the regulation of**

nursing practice. She gave examples of how the RI Board of Nursing is already working on many of these aspects. For example;

**1. Report recommends the elimination of regulatory barriers particularly related to scope of practice. The report specifically states that scope of practice regulation should be aligned with the Consensus Model for APRN Regulations**

**a. Members of the RI Board of Nursing are attending the NCSBN APRN summit from Jan 12-13 in San Diego, CA. Also the RI Board of Nursing has already planned it's own APRN summit which is scheduled for Feb 9 from 1-3pm in the Health Auditorium.**

**2. Boards of nursing and others should support transition to practice programs**

**a. RI has partnered with the MA Board of Nursing to solicit hospitals interested in participating in the NCSBN Transition to Practice research project. If enough (25) hospitals among the two states express interest, the RI and MA Boards of Nursing will submit a joint application as a research site. Thus far RI Hospital and Miriam Hospital have expressed interest in participation.**

**3. Innovative strategies for Nursing Ed**

**a. A new section allowing for innovation in nursing education is being proposed by the Board for inclusion into the RI Rules and Regulations.**

**4. Collection of workforce data**

**a. Board of nursing staff has been working internally to plan for the collections of the Workforce Minimum Data Set (18 variables) to be included on the initial licensure application an renewal form. Ms**

**McCue has been working with NCSBN to ensure that this date can be seamlessly transferred to the NURSYS database.**

**Ms McCue informed the Board that the NCSBN Board of Directors has increased the PN passing standard. The Board reviews the passing standard periodically and ensures that the standard reflects current practice needs.**

**Ms McCue notified the Board that AONE just released a position paper recommending that all executive nurse leaders be educated at the doctorate level.**

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. Proposed Nursing Regulations**

**Ms. McCue reviewed the document that included the revisions made at the November 8th meeting. Ms Rose recommended the following amendment to section 1.2 “adjunct clinical faculty”**

**“means individuals employed solely to supervise clinical nursing experiences of students and meet all the qualifications in sect\_XXX.**

**On motion of Ms Rose, and seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to accept the amendment to this section of the regulations.**

**Ms Leasca notified the Board that the minutes of last meeting**

reflected that the Board received comments on section 7.10 and that this warranted a legal opinion before the Board could make any decisions. Ms Leasca informed the Board that the Department's attorney is reviewing the matter however has not made a final recommendation to the Board. Thus Ms Leasca recommended that this section be discussed at the January 24th meeting when the Board has this information.

Ms McCue informed the Board that Board member Peggy Matteson had proposed recommendations to amend section 16.5.2 Curriculum Content. Various questions arose by the Board, however Ms Matteson was not present. Ms Leasca recommended that the education subcommittee be reconvened (in which Ms Matteson is a member) to review these recommendations and report back to the Board at the January 24th meeting.

## **6. New Business**

**No new business**

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

Ms Rosa informed that Board that she participated in an item writing/review committee for the NLEX exam at NCSBN last week. She stated it is a thorough process in which committee members are reviewing over 1500 test items. Ms Rose has also participated in this process in the past.

**Ms McCue explained to the Board the reason for Ms Matteson's absence from the meeting was that she was in Chicago participating on an NCSBN Committee that was looking at education accreditation standards and how they may differ or are similar to state regulations.**

**Donna Policastro, Executive Director of RISNA, informed the Board that at a meeting ANA referenced the work NCSBN has done on the issue of social networking and breaches in patient confidentiality. Ms Policastro stated that ANA would develop a position statement on this. Ms Twardowski informed the Board that the education profession has long held policies on this for it has posed a real problem in the classroom. She stated that these polices would be a good resource.**

## **8. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**On motion of Ms. Rose, seconded by Ms. Cahill, 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 the 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 licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. The Open Session adjourned at 10:00am.**

## **9. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**Ms Leasca called the Open Session back to order at 2:00 pm.**

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

**On motion of Ms Matteson, seconded by Ms Rose, 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.**

## **11. PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS**

**Jay Murray, RN, CRNA-license was placed a probation for 4 years and 8 months**

**Kevin Gwozdz, RN reinstate license on a 2 yr probation**

**Deirdre Couture, RNP Hearing decision to deny request for expungement of 3 consent orders**

**Francis Afamefuna Okomko, LPN-Reprimand of license**

**Amy O'Neil, RN-amendments were made to existing consent order**

**Patty Leone, RN- reinstate license on a 2 year probation**

**Michael Rossi, RN-release from probation.**

**The following cases were voted a finding of No Unprofessional Conduct**

**RN10-104**

**PN10-109**

**RN10-071**

**PN10-110**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Ms Rosa, seconded by Ms Cahill, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:35 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA, Secretary**