

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**OPEN SESSION**

**March 21, 2011**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:30 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**

**Linda Twardowski, RN,MS**

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

**Jeannine Borozny, RN**

**Kristen Young, RN**

**Carol Cairns RN, MS**

**Manuella Reposa**

**Linda Damon, RN,MS**

## **ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS**

**Michelle Cahill, LPN**

**Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD**

**Michael Gerhardt**

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

## **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 8:30 am. A quorum was established at this time.**

### **2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

**On motion of Ms Rose, and seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of February 7, 2011 with the following amendment that Anne Tierney was not present at the meeting.**

### **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ms Leasca introduce to the Board Deb**

**Palumbo, the Board's new attorney. Ms Palumbo has been assigned to the Health Department, Board of Nursing for an undefined period of time. Ms Palumbo was previously with the Department of Children, Youth and Families.**

**Ms Leasca informed the Board that the APRN Consensus Model educational program held on February 9th in the downstairs auditorium was a success. It was well attended and the speakers, Dr Ann O'Sullivan and Dr Lisa Summers were excellent. Ms Leasca stated that she has received positive feedback from those in attendance.**

#### **4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT –**

**Ms McCue gave an update to the Board on the Nurse Licensure compact (NLC)**

- NLC legislation was introduced in Alaska, Minnesota, Illinois, New Jersey, Georgia, and New York. Missouri was the latest addition to the compact and is the 24th state.**
- Three states passed the APRN Compact; Utah, Iowa, and Texas. No state has started rule making yet since they are waiting as more states pass the movement is the APRN Consensus model language.**
- The Council on State Governments (CSG) Annual Conference was held in Providence in Dec 2010. The presenters encouraged the use of compacts between states. This could lead to an increase of states' interest in joining the Nurse Licensure Compact.**

**Ms McCue informed the Board that NCSBN will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding with other countries for international collaboration on regulatory issues of mutual concern. These countries involved are;**

**Australia**

**New Zealand**

**United Kingdom**

**Singapore Nursing Board**

**College of Nurses of Ontario**

**College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia**

**Ms McCue informed the Board that the NCSBN's Guidelines and Standards for Best Practices on Non disciplinary Programs in its final version of editing and should be ready by end of May.**

**Ms McCue also informed the Board that there were several flyers available to them from NCSBN;**

**NCLEX prep classes**

**Online continuing education courses**

**NCLEX information for faculty members**

**Guidelines for maintaining professional boundaries**

**Ms McCue informed the Board that the Health Department changed the format of the website and that since she was not aware of this project until it was nearly completed, there could be some missing links and pieces of information that need to be added. She has**

**started to look at this and will write new content especially for new graduates on obtaining a license. Ms McCue stated that is the most frequent topic of calls besides status of application questions.**

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. Review/discussion on the Proposed Regulations for the Licensing of Nurses and Standards for the Approval of Basic Nursing Education Programs.**

**The education sub-committee recommended the following additions to the proposed regulations:**

#### **15.1**

**(h) The philosophy, purposes and accreditation status of the controlling institution and the major facilities to be used for clinical laboratory experience, including documentation that the controlling institution has current accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), or its successor organization;**

#### **16.1**

**(e) An approved program shall be required to obtain and maintain accreditation of the nursing program by a national nursing accrediting body acceptable to the Board, and the controlling institution shall obtain and maintain accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), or its successor organization.**

**Motion made by Ms Borozny, seconded by Ms Megerdichian it was unanimously passed to accept these amendments.**

**b. APRN Consensus Model**

**Motion made by Ms Rosa and seconded by Ms Reposo to defer this agenda item to the April 11 meeting.**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**Questions Regarding Nursing Practice- RI Department of Corrections**

**A letter was sent to the Bard from Director of Nursing, Gordon Bouchard, RN, seeking guidance on ensuring that the appropriate licensed nursing personnel (RN/LPN) were being utilized in specific clinical situations at the ACI. Extensive discussion ensued where members of the community provided input including Gerard Cobleigh who was a union representative. Mr. Bouchard gave an overview that the current system of replacing RNs when they call out is based on union seniority rather than what the level of licensure is needed to meet patient/inmates needs. President Leasca informed the Board and the community in attendance that the Board would not be making a decision at this Board meeting and if anyone had additional information for the Board on this to send it to Ms McCue's attention. Mr. Cobleigh stated that Ms McCue had already responded to these same questions; however Ms McCue informed the Board that these were not the same questions. The Board had previously received a copy of both sets of questions to demonstrate this.**

## **7. REPORT FROM NCSBN MID YEAR MEETING**

**Anne Tierney and Pam McCue attended this conference. Main agenda items were the uniform core licensure requirements for all states. The biggest discussion point that still needs to be resolved among the states is the education for licensure. The “draft policy” states that one must complete a RN or LPN program rather than graduate. Many states require the graduation requirement however many states have APRN programs where non-nurses enter the program and at graduation a MS in nursing is conferred. At what point are they able to take the NCLEX and become license? Do they need a RN license to complete the advanced practice clinicals required of APRNs? If the uniform core licensure requirements adopt the word “graduate” then these students would have to complete a master’s degree before obtaining a license. This would adversely affect RI since MA has many of these programs.**

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Donna Policastro, Executive Director of RISNA, informed the Board that RISNA will now house and chair the “End of Life Task Force”. Previously this work was done out of the Attorney General’s Office. Ms Policastro also informed the Board that ANA President Karen Daley will be in town on May 26 for a state house forum.**

**Ms Leasca informed the Board that she has been appointed to the Lt Governor’s Health Policy Commission.**

**Ms Rosa informed the Board that she will be at NCSBN next week at an NCLEX item review committee meeting.**

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**On motion of Ms. Rose, seconded by Ms. Young, 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:am.**

#### **10. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

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

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

**On motion of Ms Borozny, 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**

**Lori Barker- Released from probation**

**Denise Kennedy-Released from probation**

## **Judith Linette Martin-reinstate RN license**

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

**RN11-028**

**RN11-029**

**RN11-014**

**RN11-015**

**RN11-016**

**RN11-017**

**RN11-018**

**RN11-019**

**RN11-020**

**PN10-120**

**RN11-035**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Ms Rosa, seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:15pm**

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN**