

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

OPEN SESSION

April 11, 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,

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

Manuela Reposo

Linda Damon, RN,MS

Michelle Cahill, LPN

Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD

Michael Gerhardt

Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA, Secretary

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS

Joslin Leasca, RN, MS, RNP, President

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Pamela McCue, RN, MS Director

Linda TetuMouradjian, RN

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Ms Megerdichian, Vice President called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. A quorum was established at this time.

2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF MARCH 21, 2011

On motion of Ms Rose, and seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of March 21, 2011 with the following amendments:

Correct the spelling of Manuela Reposo's name

Carol Cairns was not in attendance

"Board" is spelling incorrectly under "New Business"

3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Ms Megerdichian stated that she does not have a report on behalf of the President to present.

4. DIRECTOR’S REPORT –

Ms McCue deferred to Ms Tierney. Ms Tierney reported to the Board that at the NCSBN Mid Year meeting a presentation was given on “Just Culture”. The presenters were from the aviation field which has adopted this philosophy to improve the safety of air travel. Health care is now looking at this for improvement in patient safety. Ms Tierney suggested the Board learn more about this and begin implementing this in their work. Specifically, identifying opportunities where nurses may be exhibiting at risk behavior/practice unintentionally and intervene to improve this behavior (to prevent errors/poor patient outcomes) where as intentional reckless practice should be dealt with discipline.

Ms McCue then deferred to Dr Matteson who reported that the US Department of Education has included in the federal register that on-line courses must be approved by the state where the student resides. Dr Matteson reported that this will cause a burden and barrier to the goals and outreach of on-line education. Ms McCue suggested that a discussion with the RI Department of Higher Education might be beneficial.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Questions Regarding Nursing Practice- RI Department of Corrections

Ms Megerdichian informed the Board that at the last meeting Ms Leasca invited Mr. Cobley to provide further information to the Board on this issue, however no further information was sent. Ms Megerdichian recommended that the Board discuss each question and render an opinion.

On motion of Mr. Gerhardt, seconded by Ms Rodrigues it was voted that the clinical situation as described is not in the scope of practice of a LPN because determining emergent from non-emergent care would require an assessment.

On motion of Ms Rodrigues and, seconded by Ms Rose it was voted that the clinical situation as described is not in the scope of practice of a LPN. Ms Megerdichian specifically raised concerns regarding the LPN identifying and treating for acute alcohol, opiate and drug withdrawal/overdose.

On motion of Mr. Gerhard, seconded by Ms Twardowski it was voted

that the clinical situation as described is not in the scope of practice of a LPN. As described above, “sick call” requires an assessment of the patient and determining an intervention based on that assessment.

On motion of Dr Matteson, seconded by Ms Cairns it was voted that the clinical situation as described is not in the scope of practice of a LPN.

Ms Policastro raised concerns regarding those LPNs’ currently engaged in this practice that is out of their scope and asked the Board if they were going to begin disciplinary proceedings. Ms McCue informed the Board that the (new) nursing and medical leadership at the ACI raised these questions to the Board for clarification so that they may ensure adherence to scope of practice regulations. Ms Roderigues stated that many nurses in this state do not understand scope of practice and the regulations that dictate it. Ms McCue offered to the Board that a power point presentation could be developed so that Board members could provide this ongoing education at various settings in the state.

The Board agreed that at this point the ACI will be sent a letter informing them of the Board’s decision on the above clinical questions and that if LPNs continue to practice out of scope,

disciplinary action could result against individual licensees.

b. APRN Consensus Model

Ms Rosa provided a brief overview of the model and answered questions from the Board. A motion was made by Dr Matteson to endorse the APRN Consensus Model and it was seconded by Ms Cahill. The motion passed unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. New England Institute of Technology Nursing Program Update

Ms Karen Haidemenos, Nursing Director and Mr. Thomas Wylie, Senior Vice President and Provost of New England Institute of Technology provided an update to the Board on their first class of nursing students. The anticipated date of graduation is in June 2011. Ms Haidemenos informed the Board that NLN made their “initial site visit” and they were in full compliance. Ms Haidemenos invited the Board to the new facility in East Greenwich and requested Ms McCue to facilitate this for interested Board members. Ms McCue clarified that once the first NCLEX pass rates were available and NEIT received final accreditation from NLN, the Board would then make a decision on full approval.

7. REPORT FROM NCSBN MID YEAR MEETING

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donna Policastro, Executive Director of RISNA, informed the Board that the RISNA Charter School is now accepting applications for 10th and 11th grade students for the Fall.

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 Megerdichain 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

Iryna Checkuroca, RN –1 year probation

The following cases were voted a finding of No Unprofessional Conduct

RN11-038

RN11-009

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted by

Anne Tierney, CRNA