

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

OPEN SESSION

May 9, 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 room 401 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 Raposo

Linda Damon, RN,MS

Michelle Cahill, LPN

Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD

Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA, Secretary

Joslin Leasca, RN, MS, RNP, President

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Gerhardt

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Pamela McCue, RN, MS Director

Linda TetuMouradjian, RN

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

President 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 April 11, 2011

On motion of Ms Borozny, and seconded by Ms Twardowski, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of May 9, 2011 with the following amendments:

Correct the spelling of Manuela Raposo's name

Meeting was held in room 401 and not in the auditorium

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT –

Ms President Leasca informed the Board that the public hearing on the proposed nursing regulations was held on April 26, 2011. Several people testified on various sections of the proposed regs. The hearing officer informed all in attendance that written testimony will be accepted up to two weeks following the date of the hearing with that date being May 10th. Ms McCue will provide these written documents to the Board including the transcript of the entire hearing for the Board to discuss at the June meeting.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Ms McCue reported that she attended the International Council of Nursing Conference in Malta last week and that it was an excellent experience. She learned that the US is one of a few countries that do not require a BSN for licensure. Ms McCue reported that Ireland presented a unique clinical experience for students in which one of their universities provided an opportunity for students to participate in a military type medical training weekend where they had to care for “combat like” injuries’ in a “war zone type climate”. She also reported that most countries are experiencing similar problems as the US in a faculty shortage, workforce planning and ensuring patients have access to competent nurses. The highlight of the experience was a ceremony hosted by NCSBN where as the English speaking nations signed a memorandum of understanding for formal collaboration on international nursing regulatory issues. This was a historic occasion for ensuring excellence in nursing regulation

world-wide.

Ms McCue also informed the Board that the NCSBN Chief Executive Officer will be attending the June 13th meeting of the Board.

5. NEW BUSINESS-

a. Gap analysis update

Ms McCue informed the Board that the Dean Joseph and Dean Williams who were to speak to this agenda item were unable to attend this morning. This agenda topic will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

b. Lincoln Technical Institute Application

Ms Raposo made the following motion:

On behalf of the education sub-committee I move that Lincoln Technical Institute has met the minimal requirements under section 15.0 and be granted authority to initiate their proposed license practical nurse program.

Ms Rose raised the issue that this was a terminal degree and that science courses would not easily transfer to a RN program of study. Dean McGarry of CCRI stated that science courses would not be transferable and that they would need to be taken for entry into the RN program. This is consistent with any graduate from an LPN program. Ms Rose questioned the need for a LPN program in the state when at least two hospitals in the state laid-off all their LPNs.

Ms Matteson, a member of the education sub-committee stated that the needs assessment in the application was weak and there were concerns by the sub-committee on securing clinical placements however she stated that they did meet only the minimal requirements and therefore the motion is before the Board. Ms Borozny seconded the motion. Ten (10) Board members voted in favor and two (2) voted in opposition of this motion. The motion did pass.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catherine Rose, Board member who held the seat designated for diploma nursing education informed the Board that she has decided to resign from the Board. Ms Rose stated that she thoroughly enjoyed her time on the Board and her committee work at NCSBN however due to many personal and professional obligations she has decided to step down. President Leasca on behalf of the Board expressed appreciation for her dedication and commitment and wished her well in her endeavors.

Donna Policastro, Executive Director of RISNA, reminded the Board of the special events planned for May 26 where ANA President Karen Daley will be presenting.

7. 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 9:20am

8. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

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

9. 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.

10 PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS

Tahra Shallo, RN- 3 year probation

The following cases were voted a finding of No Unprofessional Conduct

RN11-008

RN10-022

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted by

Anne Tierney, CRNA