



Department of Health

Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5097

TTY: 711
www.health.ri.gov

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION
MINUTES OF MEETING
OPEN SESSION
September 10, 2012**

The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:45 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.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Diane Blier, RNP
Jessica Brier
Michelle Cahill, LPN, Secretary
Carol Cairns RN, MS
Linda Damon, RN
Maria Jean, LPN
David Becker, MS, RN
Maria Pezzillo, MS, RN
Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD, President
Cristina Rosa, MS, RN
Manuela Raposo
Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA
Kristen Young, RN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Linda Twardowski, RN, MS

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lori Keough, PhD, M.Ed, RNP
Sandra Clark, MS, RN
Linda TetuMouradjian, RN, MS
Jennifer Sternick, Esq.

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

President Matteson, called the meeting to order at 8:52am. A quorum was established.

2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF July 9, 2012

On motion of D. Becker, seconded by A. Tierney, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes as presented.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Introduced Lori Keough, PhD, M.Ed., RNP as the new Executive Director of Nursing.

- P. Matteson discussed the NCSBN annual conference held this August in Texas. M. Raposo also attended. Highlights include recognition from the NCSBN to the RI Board of Nursing for 100 years of service to the nurses in the state. Highlights from the meeting include the new NCLEX exam plan which was adopted and will be administered effective spring 2013 and to be adjusted every 2 years. However, all sessions are available on-line. World Café manual from the education meeting was distributed to each of the RI schools. This year the annual meeting will be here in Providence, Rhode Island to celebrate 35th anniversary of the NCSBN organization-August 14-16, 2013.
- Attended the Access to Public Records Act & Open Meetings Act education session held by the Department of the Attorney General of RI.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Reviewed newly licensed nurses. No other report.

5. BUSINESS

- In conjunction with the NCSBN recommendations and RI regulatory position the Board will send representatives to schools of nursing in the state during their accreditation visits. Guidelines for Joint visits were distributed to all members. The first visit will be Salve Regina University-School of Nursing: to evaluate program jointly with accreditation visit from CCNE. Dates for the visit are October 1-3. D. Becker offered to chair evaluation team along with 2 or 3 other volunteers to attend part of the visit. L. Keough will send a letter to the CCNE visit team chair to inform them of our intent to visit with a carbon copy to Dr. Eileen Gray, Chair of the Nursing program. D. Becker will contact Dr. Gray via phone as well. It was noted that October 1 was also our next board meeting.
- The regulatory decision tree was distributed to all members. This serves as a guide for how we make decisions regarding practice and systems. Members voted unanimously to adopt this decision tree (NCSBN) and trial it for 6 months. Will revisit March 2013.
- Request for opinion: RE: Insertion of NG Tubes. Discussion: LPNs may not reinsert G-Tubes/J-Tubes noted from a prior statement, although not dated, was noted to be from 2005. The question has been raised if NG tubes can be inserted by LPN for gastric decompression (noted difference than for enteral feedings) and the board discussed the assessment required for this skill and raised the issue of LPN competency to do this. Although the RI Nurse Practice act does not address specific skills, it was thought that this is not within the scope of the LPN. D. Becker suggested P. Matteson will invite the individual who has requested this decision to our October 1 meeting.

- Dr. Fine addressed the injection of saline and heparin by dialysis techs into dialysis lines. Until further notice, saline may be injected, but heparin may not. A letter was distributed to the board regarding this decision. Further discussion is likely.
- An issue regarding advanced practice nurses prescribing medical marijuana was discussed. A recent interpretation of the requirements appears to exclude Nurse Practitioners from prescribing and a letter was sent to all licensed nursing prescribers making them aware that they are not able to prescribe medical marijuana. The board requested the medical marijuana policy for the next meeting. L.Keough will send out for review prior to the meeting. Public hearing for amendments is scheduled for September 21, 2012 @ 12:00 PM although the proposed amendment does not address Advanced Practice prescriptive privileges.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. Macdonald from the UNAP spoke of proposed new regulation regarding mandatory Influenza immunization for health care workers. There is a public meeting on this at 2 PM on Friday, September 21, 2012.

D. Poliscato from the RI State Nurses Association (RISNA) announced the annual meeting to be held on October 29, 2012. This will be held at the Providence Marriot and will offer 3.5 CEUs. Also requested we discuss the Medical Marijuana policy to be on the agenda for October meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Ms. Tierney, seconded by D. Blier, 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 9:50 AM.

8. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Dr. Matteson called the Open Session back to order at 2:10 pm.

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

On motion of M. Pezzillo seconded by D. Blier, 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

The Board, on unanimous vote, found no unprofessional conduct for the following: RN C12-046, RN C12-126, RN C12-413, RN C12-395.

The Board, on unanimous vote, ratified the following Consent Orders:

11. HEARING:

Kelly Denomme-case continued to 10-1. Licensee is requesting a new evaluation
Ronald Olson-Case continued to 10-1-12. Licensee remains suspended.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of M. Cahill, seconded by Ms. Rosa it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Michelle Cahill, LPN, Secretary