

# **Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education**

## **Open Session Minutes**

**July 08, 2013**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 9:04 am on the above date in the Conference Room 401 of the Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 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.**

### **Members Present:**

**Jessica Brier**

**Michelle Cahill**

**Carol Cairns**

**Linda Damon**

**Marie Jean**

**Peggy Matteson**

**Adele Palazzo**

**Manuela Raposo**

**Linda Twardowski**

### **Members Absent:**

**David Becker**

**Diane Blier**

**Maria Pezzillo**

**Anne Tierney**

**Kristen Young**

**Department of Health Members Present:**

**Donna Costantino, Chief of Health Professional Regulations**

**Normand J. Laliberte Jr.**

**Dianne Leyden, Senior Legal Counsel**

**Jennifer Sternick, Senior Legal Counsel**

**Linda Tetu-Mourajdian**

**Donna Valletta**

**1. Establishment of a Quorum:**

**President Matteson called the meeting to order at 9:04 am after a quorum was established.**

**2. Presentation of the Minutes:**

**The minutes for the May 13th & June 10th meetings were presented to the board for review and approval. Motion: Linda Damon and 2nd: Michelle Cahill**

**3. President's Report:**

**Peggy Matteson will be providing the welcoming comments to the attendees of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Annual Meeting to be held in Providence from August 13 to 16, 2013.**

**4. Director's Report:**

**The Acting Director presented copies of the NCSBN National Meeting Booklet for the Providence August 14 to 16th meeting.**

**5. Business:**

**1. The Board voted unanimously to re-elect the 2012-2013 slate of officers for the 2013-2014 year. President - Peggy Matteson, Vice-president - Linda Damon, Secretary - Michelle Cahill.**

**2. The Board approved the selection of Peggy Matteson and Linda Damon as RI's representatives to the NCSBN Annual Meeting.**

**3. The Board received a report from Ann Marie Simard, MSN, RN, Dean of Nursing at the Lincoln, RI campus of the Lincoln Technical Institute (LTI) regarding a request to decrease the length of the curriculum of their LPN education preparation program. LTI has been advised by the NLNAC, their national accrediting agency, that the Institute exceeds the maximum standard for hours and credits. In response, LTI is proposing to reduce the hours and the credits so that they fall into line with other programs. The proposal is that the program change from being presented over 60 weeks with an average of 5 week semesters to a 50 week program with an average of 10 week semesters. Ms Simard presented materials that included a side-by-side comparison of the current and proposed time frames, course descriptions, and a calendar that demonstrated the program flow and the length of each semester. Ms Simard was thanked for the materials. The Board will review them and ask any further questions at the September Board meeting. The Board also agreed to schedule a site visit in September.**

**6. Comments from the Public:**

**Donna Policastro, Executive Director of the RI State Nurses Association shared that:**

**a. At the American Nurses Association June meeting several states presented a resolution for consideration regarding nursing practice and the use of tele-health. More information will be forthcoming.**

**b. Governor Lincoln Chafee has signed the statutes regarding advanced practice registered nurses. In response to this announcement the president of the Board of Nursing stated that a sub-committee of the Board will initiate the work of moving the expectations of the statute into Rules and Regulations.**

**c. Announced that on September 27, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm RISNA will be providing a seminar titled, Legislation 101, at the State Room of the RI State House.**

#### **7. Public Hearing:**

**- A hearing for Elizabeth Dyer was called to order at 10:18 am. Attorney James Howe represented Ms. Dyer. He presented a petition for dismissal of charges. After discussion with his client, he withdrew his request for a dismissal. Hearing closed at 10:30 am.**

**- A hearing for Joslin Leasca was called to order at 10:31 am. Attorney Howe requested to withdraw his request for dismissal of charges for his client.**

**Hearing ended at 10:42 am**

**Pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws for 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. Said individuals have been notified in writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.**

**A motion was made by Jessica Brier and seconded by Carol Cairns to go into Executive Session . Decision was unanimous.**

**Board returned to Open Session at 2:50 pm and voted to seal minutes of the Executive Session pursuant to section 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws for the presentation of final actions.**

**As requested by the licensee, the Board reviewed Teresa Tortolani, RN 26375, C13-253 in Open Session, and concluded its findings.**

**Motion: Carol Cairns and Second: Jessica Brier**

**7. Adjournment:**

**A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 3:15 pm.**