

NURSING ASSISTANT ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

9 January 2007

Open Session

The Open Session of the Nursing Assistant Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.

Board members in attendance:

- Alice Frezza, NA**
- Michele Carignan, RN**
- Caroline Naughton Rumowicz**
- Marilyn O'Connor, RN**
- Pattie Petracca, LPN**
- Jeanne Mason, RN**

Board members not in attendance:

- Simone Lacroix, RN, NHA**
- Mary Ellen Grimes, NA**

- **Catherine Mainville, RN**
- **Mary Ann Altrui, NHA**

Staff members in attendance:

Greg Madoian, Legal Counsel, Charles Alexandre, Chief, Health Professions Regulation, June Leary, Investigator, Sandra Clark, Chief of the Complaint Unit and Marie Stoekel, Complaint Unit

Others in attendance:

The Minutes of the Open Session 3 October and 21 November 2006 meetings of the Nursing Assistant Advisory Board were presented for approval.

Mr. Madoian, Ms. Clark, Ms. Leary and Mr. Alexandre joined the meeting at this time to discuss the need to streamline the backlog of nursing assistant complaints. A

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draft document was distributed to the members outlining the

proposed process. The proposal states that only complaints alleging verbal abuse of patients would be reviewed in regard to the severity of the impact of the alleged abuse. If it is determined that there was no impact or minimal impact and the nursing assistant does not have a prior history of more than two (2) similar complaints, a case would not be opened. The Board did not agree with two (2) similar complaints. After discussion, it was determined that prior history would consist of one (1) complaint instead of two (2). As part of the process, the complaints that do not warrant opening would be placed in a file. It was also discussed that Board members would volunteer their time to come in between Board meeting and review the backlog to help determine which complaints should be opened and which complaints would be filed. In addition, one (1) Board member will dedicate one (1) hour during the Board meeting to review these cases. Ms. Clark and Ms. Leary will be placed back on the agenda in April to inform the Board whether or not this process was beneficial.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on 30 January 2007.

The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Arrighi

Board Administrator

Health Professions Regulation