

NURSING ASSISTANT ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

OPEN SESSION

March 10, 2009

The Open Session of the Nursing Assistant Advisory Board was called to order at 9:15 a.m. on the above date in Room 104, Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 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.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mary Ann Altrui

Michele Carignan

Catherine Mainville

M. Jeanne Mason

Pattie Petracca

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Alice Frezza

Caroline Naughton Rumowicz

Marilyn O'Connor

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Donna Valletta, Board Administrator

Pamela McCue, RN, MS, Director, Nurse Registration & Nursing Education

Charles Alexandre, RN, MSN, Chief, Office of Health Professionals Regulation

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

None

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Donna Valletta called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. A quorum was established at 9:25 a.m., upon Michele Carignan's arrival. Jeanne Mason questioned the quorum requirements and Donna Valletta shared legal counsel's interpretation of what constitutes a quorum, which is the majority of members on the board.

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Donna Valletta presented the Minutes of the Open Session of

February 10, 2009. On motion of Mary Ann Altrui, seconded by Catherine Mainville, it was voted to accept the minutes as presented.

3. BOARD ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Donna Valletta reiterated the Medication Aide license requirements. If an individual has an active Nursing Assistant license, she (he) may apply for a Medication Aide license. Our website contains the application, Medication Aide with a Nursing Assistant license, which is required to be completed and submitted to the Department.

For those individuals, who are NOT Nursing Assistants, the time period has passed. They must be licensed as a Nursing Assistant before they can become licensed as a Medication Aide.

4. CHIEF'S REPORT

Charles Alexandre advised the members that the contract with Pearson VUE expires on December 31, 2009. Pearson VUE is the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program, which contracts with CCRI to conduct the Nursing Assistant written and skills examinations. The contract is out to bid and open to interested parties. Charles Alexandre will monitor the review process until completion.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pamela McCue distributed a copy of a proposed House bill, 2009 – H5652, introduced by Representatives Shallcross Smith, Almeida, Marcello, Hearn and Carnevale, for review and feedback. This bill would require the Director of Health to promulgate rules and regulations to permit Nursing Assistants to administer insulin by injection to individuals on home care services. The members unanimously opposed this legislation for various reasons. At this time, there is not a companion Senate bill.

A question arose regarding Nursing Assistants who perform private duty nursing. The Board was informed that our current rules and regulations do not extend jurisdiction to individuals performing private duty nursing.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

As a result of the unavailability by many of the board members, a decision was made to cancel the next scheduled meeting, April 14, and reschedule for the prior week, April 7.

7. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Catherine Mainville, seconded by Jeanne Mason, 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

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 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Valletta

Board Administrator