

# **RHODE ISLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR OPTICIANRY**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**November 13, 2013**

**Open Session**

**The Open Session of the RI Advisory Committee for Opticianry was called to order at 8:45 am on the above date in Room 104, 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: Board members not in attendance:**

**Kim Chace, Chair**

**Charles Hogenmiller**

**Matthew Steward Staff members in attendance:**

**John J. Lynch, Jr. J. Michel Martineau**

**Steve Morris, Esq.**

**Others in attendance:**

**Barry Collins**

**A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 8:55 AM. The minutes of the open session held on July 18, 2012 were presented. Matthew Steward made a motion to accept the minutes,**

**seconded by Kim Chace, it was unanimously passed.**

**Member John Lynch references RI General Law (Section 5-35.2-1 (5)) stating he will continue to work with the professional organization and lobbyist to pursue a change that would delete the two words "...selling, replacing...". The administrator asks and John Lynch confirms this was worked on last year and while the Bill was passed in the house, it did not pass in the Senate. Atty. Morris indicates it would be useful if John Lynch or others supportive of this change would draft a document and forward it to him, Atty. Morris would review for appropriateness and share with HEALTH legislative staff. Members request support from HEALTH for this consumer friendly proposed change, Atty. Morris indicates he would work with their request and direct it to appropriate HEALTH legislative staff.**

**Board members discuss conducting a limited audit for CE. John Lynch and others indicate while many professionals complete the CE requirement, the concern that some may not merit a review of some or all license holders. The administrator indicates in the recent past an audit of 10 psychologist license holders was completed and the Department would review this boards request if they determine to seek an audit. Members indicate it would be useful to have an audit of more than 10 license holders. Atty. Morris references the Opticianry Regulations (section 6.1) and**

indicates this provides for the board to request that all license holders provide evidence such as original proof of completion of 12 hours of CE for the preceding two year cycle. Subsequently Atty. Morris references RIGL (Section 5-35.2-7) and notes it is different than the wording in the Regulations, the Law references "...attest to the department...".

Atty. Morris suggests an audit affecting 100% of license holders, Members concur and Atty. Morris advises that interested board members draft a brief letter and forward it to him for review.

#### **Adjournment to Executive Session**

On motion of Kim Chace, seconded by Matthew Steward, it was unanimously voted to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, as Amended, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure and investigative cases will be discussed. The Open Session adjourned at 9:25 am.

#### **Return to Open Session**

The Open Session was called back to order at 9:34 am.

The Minutes of the executive session held on July 18, 2013 were presented. On motion of Matthew Steward, seconded by Kim Chace, it was unanimously voted to accept the Minutes.

**On motion of Charles Hogenmiller, Kim Chace, seconded by Matthew Steward, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed**

### **Adjournment**

**Having no further business, on motion of Kim Chace, seconded by Charles Hogenmiller, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 am.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**J. Michel Martineau**

**Health Policy Analyst**