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**DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**Minutes of Meeting
Thursday, June 21, 2012**

OPEN SESSION

The OPEN Session Meeting of the Board of Pharmacy was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on the above date in Beck Conference Room of the Cannon Building, RI Department of Health. PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE General Laws of Rhode Island, as amended Jonathan Mundy, Chairperson.

Members Present

**Jonathan Mundy (Chairman), Chris Albanese (Secretary), Michael Cacchiotti, Karen DiStefano,
Richard Hathaway, Kathleen Kettle, Susan DelMonico, Kelly Orr**

Staff Present

Cathy Cordy, Patrick Kelly, Linda Phillips, Kimberly Grattan (student)

Call to Order

Chairman Jonathon Mundy called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

1.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the OPEN Session Meeting held on May 17, 2012 were reviewed. Karen DiStefano

moved that the minutes be approved. Kathleen Kettle seconded the

**motion. The motion carried on
unanimous consent.**

2.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Communications:

PMP: Cathy Cordy announced that enrollment letters will be going out in early August.

Continuing Education Inquiries:

Request for extension - Andrew Tong:

Mr. Tong contacted the Board and explained that he is recently licensed in RI. He went on line to renew his RI license in mid June and realized he needed to complete the RI CE requirement by June 30th. He answered “yes” to having completed the requirement; however he felt he needed to let the Board be aware that although he has not completed them, he will have them done by the June 30th deadline. After discussion, Susan DelMonico made a motion to allow Mr. Tong

to complete his CE requirement by June 30th and hand in copies of the CE's to the Board. The motion was seconded by Richard Hathaway and passed unanimously by the Board.

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Issued Pharmacy Licenses: (As Attached)

A list of new pharmacy licenses was distributed to the Board for review. On a motion made by

Kathleen Kettle and seconded by Richard Hathaway, the list of licenses was approved by unanimous consent.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

None

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

Request for exemption to allow dispensing of LTBI meds from CHC's – Michael Fine, MD, Director of Health: Dr. Fine spoke to the Board requesting an exemption to allow dispensing of Latent Tuberculosis Infection Medications (Isoniazid, Rifampin and Rifapentine) for

patients seen at Community Health Centers due to substantial cuts in funding to Miriam's Rise Clinic. He explained that "cost and lack of access to these medications are barriers in the uninsured/underinsured population which can result in non-adherence to therapy". After discussion, Kathleen Kettle made a motion to set up a subcommittee to explore this issue. Motion was seconded by Susan DelMonico and passed unanimously. Susan DelMonico, Kelly Orr and Kathleen Kettle expressed interest in being part of the subcommittee.

Automatic filling of prescriptions by pharmacies: Kathleen Kettle brought up the topic that many pharmacies now give customers the choice to have their prescriptions refilled automatically when due. She mentioned this is convenient for patients, but is also a concern because sometimes medications that may have been changed or stopped may still get refilled and subsequently picked up by the patient. All agreed this is a topic that needs further discussion in the near future to see how to improve communications between prescribers, pharmacies and patients when medications are changed or discontinued.

Policy for use of medical marijuana in hospitals: Topic of use and

storage of medical marijuana by patients while they are admitted in the hospital. Discussion mentioned that there are no clear rules/regulation regarding this issue. Can the pharmacy legally store the marijuana for the patient and dispense to them when needed or must the patient store it in their hospital room and take it upon themselves to use as needed? Topic was tabled for future discussion.

PICS in institutional settings - Roles and related issues: Hospital Directors and PIC's would like the Board to set up a subcommittee to "better align contemporary hospital pharmacy practice & responsibilities with the rules/regulations required by the Board". Hospital pharmacy practice has changed dramatically over the past decade, many satellite centers have been opened by the hospitals, and they pointed out that a PIC at a hospital can have as many as 100 off site medication storage areas and be up to 35 miles away. Their goal would be "to develop regulations specific to institutional pharmacies or institutional PICs that are in line with Joint Commission Standards and CMS Conditions of Participation for ensuring safe medication practices, yet balance this with reasonable direct accountability for the PIC". After discussion, a motion was made by Kelly Orr to set up a subcommittee to explore these concerns. Motion was seconded by Richard Hathaway and passed unanimously.

5.0 PIC APPEARANCES

The following new Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC) appeared before the Board of Pharmacy to receive advice from Board members and also receive a current copy of Rules and Regulations governing the practice of Pharmacy in Rhode Island:

None

6.0 ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 46-45-5 of the RI General Laws for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licenses; and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held in an OPEN meeting.

Richard Hathaway made a motion to close the OPEN meeting and adjourn to CLOSED session

in accordance with Sections 42-46-5(a) (1) and (4). Kathleen Kettle seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

The OPEN meeting session adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

7.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Karen DiStefano made a motion to reopen the OPEN session at 10:49 a.m. Susan DelMonico seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

8.0 FINAL ACTIONS

(RPh02045) William Bilotti Reprimand with CE requirement & employee monitoring

9.0 ADJOURN

Being no other business before the Board, Michael Cacchiatti made a motion to adjourn

the meeting at 11:05a.m. Kathleen Kettle seconded the motion. The motion

carried on unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Albanese

Chris Albanese, Secretary

Board of Pharmacy