

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY**

**MAY 19, 2005**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**The Open Session of the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology was called to order at 3:00 pm on the above date in Room 104, 3 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. A quorum was established.**

**Board members in attendance:**

**Patricia Bellini**

**Faith Walsh**

**Constance Gelfuso**

**Board members not in attendance:**

**Charles Ruhl, MD**

**Reverend Michelle Sullivan**

**Staff members in attendance:**

**Donna Dickerman**

**Minutes of the meeting held February 23, 2005 were reviewed. Patricia Bellini entered a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Faith Walsh seconded the motion with agreement from Constance Gelfuso.**

**Members, by a unanimous vote, elected Faith Walsh as the Board Chair.**

**Members continued discussion of the education changes for audiologists. Currently, candidates take the Praxis exam post masters degree and prior to completing a clinical fellowship. Completion of the Praxis is a requirement for a Rhode Island provisional license. With the change from a clinical fellowship, post-masters, to an internship pre-masters, it is not known if ASHA will continue to require the Praxis. If a provisional license is determined necessary for students to complete the internship (pre-masters), changes are necessary to the Law, Section 5-48-7.1 and Section 5-48-7 (4) (5) and (7). (Note – this is for audiology only – should have separate language**

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for speech and audiology, which would require separate section for each). For issuance of regular audiology licenses, changes are required to Section 5-48-7: will clock hours still be issued (relates to #5); #6 relates to a CFY, which will no longer be required and #7 relates to the national exam (Praxis). Given the many educational changes for audiology, qualifications for speech pathologists and audiologists should be separated in the law. Note: If requirements are made separate, speech language needs revision as well.

Board members reviewed and unanimously approved the following applications for licensure (some pending certain credentials/documentation):

**Speech pathologists by endorsement:**

**Lisa Ladd (pending birth certificate and one letter of reference)**

**Mary Maynard (pending birth certificate, 2 letters of reference and NY verification)**

**Speech pathologist by exam: Kathleen Dempsy Ralene Debord Marisa McBride**

**The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on August 3, 2005 at 3:00 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Donna Dickerman**

**Board Administrator**

**Health Professionals Regulation**