

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

June 30, 2010

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Open Session of the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was called to order at 3:00 p. m. 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.

Members in attendance:

Rachel Baboian, Patricia Bellini, Constance Gelfuso, Rev. Michelle Sullivan

Member not in attendance:

Charles Ruhl, MD

Staff Member in attendance:

Maureen Slowik

Minutes of the meeting held October 3, 2007 were reviewed. On a motion by Rachel Baboian and seconded by Constance Gelfuso, the minutes were accepted as presented. It should be noted that June 30, 2010 was the first time the Board had officially met since October 3, 2007.

Over the past several months, Board Member Rachel Baboian, personnel from the Division of Family Health at the Rhode Island

Department of Health and other interested parties have been working on proposed changes to the rules and regulations. Some of the highlights of these changes were in regards to better definitions for hearing screenings for newborns and school age children within a hospital and school setting as well as a clearer definition of supervision by audiologists to provide that supervision can be done in a more reasonable manner. The Board had a chance to review these changes. On a motion by Rachel Baboian and seconded by Patricia Bellini it was decided to accept the changes as written. We will go forward with the necessary Community Review for the proposed changes. The Community Review will then be followed by a Public Hearing. Maureen Slowik will forward the changes to Charles Alexandre, Chief of Health Professions, to begin the Community Review process.

Rev. Trask asked the Board how the Public would know if a hearing test done in a physician's office was done by an individual who is qualified to do the test and that the equipment is properly calibrated for the test. Answer: They don't. Most people depend that the test done in the physician's office is correct. Rev. Trask related a story of a family member who slipped through the cracks and was not properly diagnosed with a hearing problem. Board spoke briefly on the matter to see if some notification should be sent to physicians throughout the state. This outreach to physicians will be discussed at the next Board Meeting in October once the new Rules and Regulations are finalized.

Adjournment to Executive Session

Return to Open Session

The Open Session was called back to order. It was unanimously voted to keep confidential matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Constance Gelfuso, seconded by Rev. Sullivan, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Slowik, Administrator