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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
RAE RAMSDELL
DIRECTOR

STEVEN H. HILFINGER
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK JANUARY 24, 2012 MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended, the Michigan Board of Social Work met in regular session on January 24, 2012 at 9:30 a.m., in the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 4, Lansing, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Matthew Wojack, LMSW, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Matthew Wojack, LMSW, Chairperson
Anwar Najor-Durack, MSW, LMSW, Vice Chairperson
Heather Adams Bell, Public Member
Michele Brock, LMSW
Eleanor Blum, Public Member
E. Jane Hayes, LMSW
Pamela Manela, LMSW
Michelle Woods, Public Member
Merry Battles, LMSW, CAAC

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary, Health Regulatory Division
Rae Ramsdell, Director, Bureau of Health Professions
Norene Lind, Policy Manager, Health Regulatory Division
Wendy Helmic, Analyst, Health Regulatory Division
Robert Jenkins, Assistant Attorney General
Kayla Byrd, Law Student Intern, Health Regulatory Division

Others Present: Robin Mingus, NASW-Michigan
Maxine Thome, NASW-Michigan
Julie Hyrez

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Wojack welcomed reappointed members Woods and Najor-Durack.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Woods, seconded by Najor-Durack, to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2011 meeting as presented.

MOTION PREVAILED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Brock, seconded by Woods, to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION PREVAILED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CE Committee and Collaborative Report

Brock reported that the CE Collaborative Body met in December and in January. She informed the Board that the Collaborative Body will now meet three (3) times per year.

Brock advised that the Body had reviewed the home study packet that was sent to Michigan Social Workers and that there was some confusion over the home study listing. She stated that the only reason home study listings are in the book is because Michigan accepts these programs from other states. Brock noted that the CE Collaborative Body has not approved home study in Michigan.

MOTION by Brock, seconded by Adams-Bell, to create a Board ad hoc committee to make recommendations for rule changes.

A voice vote was called.

MOTION PREVAILED

Brock acknowledged the effort of the CE Collaborative Body and thanked them for their hard work.

Mingus provided the Board with information pertaining to the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative and provided a verbal overview of the same. Mingus spoke in regards to changes in the audit process that will provide more comprehensive feedback.

Mingus advised that there are twenty-six (26) counties in Michigan without Continuing Education.

Committee on Scope and Impact of Social Work Licensing

Najor-Durack reported that the committee had met with Wayne State and Michigan State Universities and plans to meet again to discuss sanctioning, specifically ethics, discipline, and competence, in order to find ways to incorporate these topics into the curriculum.

Wojack noted that the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics is shared with students; however not necessarily the Public Health Code. Wojack shared his idea of collecting information from cases presented to the Board to use as examples in a format that students can use to learn more about disciplinary cases. He suggested working with Department of Human Services (DHS) employees and service purchase contractors, as well as universities, to gather more useful information.

Najor-Durack stated that she feels good about the committee making progress.

Addiction Counselor Certification Update

Wojack announced that Battles is stepping down from her duties and will possibly be replaced by Blum.

OLD BUSINESS

ASWB Exam Policies

Ramsdell distributed to the Board passing rates of the exam. The Board held discussion regarding the statistics.

ASWB Testing Statistics

Brock explained to the Board that new testing results do not inform an applicant what domains of knowledge they missed questions in. Ramsdell advised that she will ask the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) to provide more detailed feedback from the test.

Wojack inquired whether school passing rates were available. Najor-Durack stated that most results are based on state, not school, statistics. Ramsdell advised that she can get school testing results, and stated she will follow up on the topic.

Ramsdell advised that an applicant has up to seven (7) years to pass the exam, and an applicant can take the test every three (3) months.

ASWB Meeting DVD Report (DVD #6, #7 and #8)

DVD # 6

Adams-Bell gave report on DVD #6, "Law and Order." She reported that the DVD addressed conflicts of interest and the potential for bias by Board and DSC members when reviewing disciplinary cases. In such instances, Board members should recuse themselves from voting.

The Board held further discussion regarding other state's ethical guidelines and ASWB policies.

DVD # 7

Brock advised that DVD # 7 focused on a survey of faculty's and new professional's knowledge and perception of licensure and laws and where they turn to for answers. She provided statistics from the state of New Jersey that reflected the resources used when searching for answers to questions regarding licensure and licensing laws.

Brock spoke in regards to the views of the exam, stating that 68% of faculty thought that fail/pass rates should be made available to the public. She stated that 70% students felt prepared for the exam.

DVD # 8

Brock shared what highlighted points from DVD # 8, advising that the DVD focused on the challenge for exam writers in portraying cultural context. She also said that the DVD addresses the topic of English as a second language.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTIONS

MOTION by Brock, seconded by Hayes, to appoint Najor-Durack as Chairperson.

A unanimous voice vote was called.

MOTION PREVAILED

MOTION by Najor-Durack, seconded by Blum, to appoint Hayes as Vice Chairperson.

A unanimous voice vote was called.

MOTION PREVAILED

Department Update

Lind advised that ASWB is offering new Board member training. Manela and Brock were interested and advised to work with Lind to secure registration.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Julie Hyrez, public attendee, inquired about how to get her limited license renewed, as it is currently expired. Ramsdell agreed to speak with Hyrez after the meeting.

Maxine Thome complained about waiting fifteen (15) minutes to be escorted to the meeting.

Thome advised that the NASW Ethics committee utilizes the Public Health code in their training regarding scope of practice and competency.

Thome expressed reservation about the listing that was published and distributed to Michigan Social Workers by an out-of-state vendor.

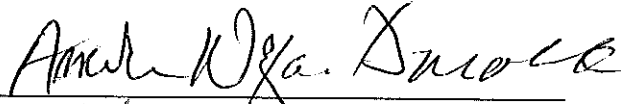
Thome addressed the issue of people who have practiced for several years but cannot pass the test. She suggested that test anxiety may be the cause; hence test preparation assistance may help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held March 27, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 3, Lansing, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

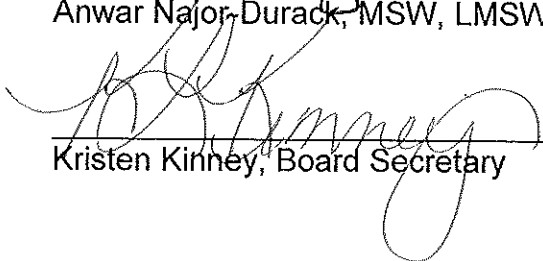
MOTION by Woods, seconded by Brock, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m.



Anwar Najor-Durack, MSW, LMSW, Chairperson

3.27-12

Date Minutes Approved



Kristen Kirney, Board Secretary

1/25/2012

Date Minutes Prepared