



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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

STEVEN H. HILFINGER
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN BOARD OF COUNSELING DECEMBER 2, 2011 APPROVED MINUTES

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976, PA 267, as amended, the Michigan Board of Counseling met in regular session on December 2, 2011, at the Ottawa Building, 611 W. Ottawa, Conference Room 4, Upper Level Conference Center, Lansing, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

Steve Hampton, L.M.S.W, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Martha Burkett, L.P.C. (arrived at 10:24 a.m.)
Steve Hampton, L.M.S.W.
Rev. Meredith Hunt, Public Member
Harriet Singleton, L.P.C.
Thomas Wuori, Public Member
Louellen Ramey, L.P.C. – Professional Member
Ramsey Y. Jiddou -Public Member
Patrick Munley Ph.D. -Professional Member

Members Absent: Marion Turowski, L.P.C., Chairperson
Laura LeClear, Public Member

Staff Present: Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary, Health Regulatory Division
Norene Lind, Policy Manager, Health Regulatory Division
Kelly Hugh, Policy Analyst, Health Regulatory Division
Desmond Mitchell, Policy Analyst, Health Regulatory Division
(arrived at 10:12 a.m.)
Jennifer Fitzgerald, Assistant Attorney General
Rae Ramsdell, Director, Health Regulatory Division
Lucinda Clark, Licensing Manager, Health Regulatory Division
(left at 11:01 a.m.)

Others Present: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hampton, seconded by Singleton, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2011 meeting with the following corrections:

Correct sentence three under NBCC Meeting Update to read as:

She stated that the divisions in counseling, Mental Health and Marriage and Family Therapy are being required to have sixty (60) additional masters' degree program hours, which previously had only required forty eight (48).

Correct the spelling of Luellen Ramey's name under ROLL CALL.

MOTION PREVAILED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Hunt, seconded by Singleton to approve the agenda as it is presented.

MOTION PREVAILED

OLD BUSINESS

Non-Traditional Counseling Supervision in Other States

Mitchell announced that he had compiled a report on Non-traditional Counseling Supervision from all states and directed the Board to a handout containing his findings. Hunt pointed out the different variation from state to state. Hampton stated that there had been no decision regarding the supervision via non-tradition methods due to no guidelines being in place. Munley voiced his concerns regarding confidentiality issues, asking whether documents or files can be encrypted prior to sending, as well as other security issues. Jiddou asked for more information. Ramsdell advised that she would get the requested information to him. Singleton recommended that the rules committee follow up on the topic. Ramsdell advised that the decision must come from the Board. Mitchell reported that it will take awhile before the rules committee will present to the topic to the Board. Parfitt asked if the Board will be considering a change of the rules. Hampton answered that all requests regarding non-traditional supervision would be handled on a case by case basis. Further discussion was held.

Hampton advised that the rules committee consisted of Wuori, Turowski and Singleton. He asked members interested in joining the committee to make Turowski aware of their interest.

NEW BUSINESS

DETC Accrediting Commission

Lind provided Board members with a letter sent to the Board by the DETC Accrediting Commission, requesting modification of R 338.1753a. Specifically, the letter requested the Board consider accepting the degrees and credits awarded by DETC accredited institutions in the same manner that degrees and credits from regionally accredited institutions are accepted. Lind advised that since the request for rule modification was received beyond the deadline noted in the public hearing announcement, the Board could either re-draft rules and go back through many of the rulemaking steps, including holding a second public hearing; or the Board could proceed without making the amendment at this time, preferring to address the issue at such a time in the future when the counseling rules are again opened up for review. The Board chose the latter option, which will be communicated by bureau staff to the DETC Accrediting Commission.

Michigan Psychological Association (MPA) – Position Paper: Masters Level Practice and Senate Bill 804

Hampton advised that the MPA position paper reflects on points raised by SB 804. He noted that the bill would, among other things, eliminate the title of LLP. He raised concerns that if “clinical psychotherapist” becomes a licensed title, it could restrict other professions from using the general term of psychotherapist. Ramsdell noted that there is no distinction between what masters level and Ph.D. levels can do. Further, the term “psychotherapy” is used in various rules, not in the statute.

Singleton raised concerns about assessments. Ramsdell advised that this legislation cannot supersede what is currently allowed by law for other professions. Counselors can do assessments too.

Hampton asked what the Board needs to do to address any concerns. Ramsdell advised that the Board can share comments with her, and she will, in turn, share those comments with the department’s policy office and leadership. She advised that a Board cannot enter into such political discussions; however, Board members may represent their own concerns to their associations.

Munley raised concerns about SB 518, the conscientious objector bill. Once again, Ramsdell offered to share any legislative concerns the Board may have with the department’s policy office.

Department Update

Ramsdell announced that the Department is now officially working under Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. Ramsdell informed the Board of the Governor’s Office appointment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hampton introduced new member Parfitt to the Board and asked the Board to introduce themselves as well. He was obliged.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held March 2, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Upper Level Conference Center, Conference Room 3, Lansing, Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Parfitt, seconded by Wuori, to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.



Marion Turowski, L.P.C., Chairperson



Kristen Kinney, Board Secretary

6-1-12

Date Minutes Approved



Date Minutes Prepared