

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on July 17, 2013 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Ellen M. Komar, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN – *left 3:00 PM*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jennifer Long, APRN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, PLIS, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Stone Academy.

Chair Bouffard provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Filippone provided the Board with recent updates. Effective October 1, 2013 the licensure renewal process for all Nurses, Physicians, and Dentists will now be mandatory on-line renewals. Licensure fees have increased \$5.00 in order to cover the service charge for the credit card use. Ms. Filippone also provided updates on the National Workforce Survey and NURSYS. Hopefully Connecticut will be a fully participating NURSYS state either by September 1st or October 1st, 2013 at which time there will be a \$30.00 charge for all nurse licensure verifications.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard, Ellen Komar, and Jennifer Long are planning to attend the NCSBN Annual Meeting which will be held in Providence, Rhode Island August 14 – 16, 2013.

Today is Maria Pietrantuono's last meeting. Maria was appointed by Governor M. Jodi Rell on August 24, 2005 as an RN Member with a Master's Degree in Nursing. Maria's expertise was critical to the Board's mission to ensure the public health and safety of the citizens of Connecticut. Maria's eight years of service as a Board Member is especially appreciated in light of the fact that it was entirely voluntary. Maria will be greatly missed for her diligence as well as her kindness and good humor. The Board wishes Maria success in all of her future endeavors.

The Eileen Hartman RN hearing has been continued to August 21, 2013 at 8:30 AM. Absent extreme, unforeseen circumstances, no further continuance requests will be granted by Chair Bouffard.

SCHOOL ISSUES

STONE ACADEMY – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program were Dale DeMille and Eleanor Davio. Stone Academy is requesting their first one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Charlene D'Angelo. Due to extenuating circumstances, Ms. D'Angelo was unable to complete her MSN within the four year time requirement. She is currently matriculated into the MSN Program at the University of Hartford with an expected graduation date in May of 2014. Maria Pietrantuono moved to grant the one year faculty education waiver for Ms. D'Angelo. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners and passed unanimously.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY – INTERIM CHAIR

Present from the program were Susan DeNisco and Audrey Beauvais.

Effective July 1, 2013 Susan M. DeNisco assumed the position of Interim Chair of the Nursing Department at Sacred Heart University. Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to approve Dr. DeNisco's new position as Interim Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Also, Audrey Beauvais has been appointed as the Undergraduate Program Director. Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono to approve Dr. Beauvais as the Undergraduate Program Director. The motion passed unanimously.

LINCOLN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program were Patricia DeLucia and Rachelle Gauvin.

Lincoln Technical Institute is requesting a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Rachelle Gauvin. Ms. Gauvin was unable to complete her MSN within the four-year timeframe due to extenuating circumstances. Ms. Gauvin is currently matriculated as an MSN student at Sacred Heart University with an anticipated graduation in the Spring of 2015. Gina Reiners moved, and Ellen Komar seconded to grant this one-year waiver request. The motion passed unanimously.

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Ellen Freeman was present from the program to present this waiver request to the Board.

Three Rivers Community College is requesting an additional one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Michelle Bull to complete her MSN. Ms. Bull is currently matriculated into the MSN Program at Sacred Heart University and is expected to graduate in the Winter of 2013. Gina Reiners moved, which was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to grant this one-year extension. The motion passed unanimously.

WESTERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – NEW CHAIR

Dr. Jess House, Dean of Professional Studies, was present from WCSU. The Board reviewed the documentation regarding the appointment of Joan Palladino as Chair of the Western CT State University Department of Nursing. Gina Reiners moved that Dr. Palladino's credentials meet the criteria as outlined in the Nursing School Regulations. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Dr. Palladino was appointed to a two-year term as Chair of the Department of Nursing which became effective July 1, 2013.

PREHEARING REVIEW – MICHELE NOVELLA, RN/APRN

DPH Staff Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Prehearing Review Packet for Michele Novella. Attorney Edward V. Walsh was present with Ms. Novella. After discussion and review of the documents presented, it was the recommendation of the Board that this matter be dismissed as it does not rise to a level which requires discipline in Connecticut.

PREHEARING REVIEW – CHRISTINE PIMER, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Prehearing Review Packet for Christine Pimer. Attorney Ellen Costello was present with Ms. Pimer. After discussion and review of the documents presented, it was the recommendation of the Board that this matter be dismissed as the allegations does not rise to a level which requires discipline in Connecticut.

PREHEARING REVIEW/CONSENT ORDER – FRANK ACQUAH, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for Frank Acquah. Mr. Acquah's counsel, Attorney Ellen Costello, was present for this review. Gina Reiners moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – DONALD MUSGRAVE, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Donald Musgrave. Mr. Musgrave was not present nor was he represented by counsel at this meeting. Mary Brown moved that the Board grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously.

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the following minutes.

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve the minutes as edited. The motion passed unanimously.

FEBRUARY 20, 2013

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

MARCH 6, 2013

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

MARCH 20, 2013

Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Patricia Bouffard, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with three abstentions: Mary Brown, Ellen Komar, and Maria Pietrantuono who were not in attendance at the March 20, 2013 meeting.

APRIL 3, 2013

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with Gina Reiners abstaining as she was not in attendance at the April 3, 2013 meeting.

APRIL 17, 2013

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Maria Pietrantuono who abstained as she was not in attendance at the April 17, 2013 meeting.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – EWURAMA HAYFORD, APRN

Mary Brown moved that the Board affirm their prior decision to dismiss the charges regarding Ms. Hayford as the Charges did not rise to a level of discipline in Connecticut. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

HEARING – PAMELA DOLE, RN/APRN

DPH Staff Attorney David Tilles was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Dole was present pro se. This is Day 5 that the Board has set aside for this hearing.

Attorney Tilles had rested his case on the record and Ms. Dole waived her right to cross Ms. Debra Hernandez.

Board Exhibit 5, which was entered into the record on October 17, 2012 as "ID Only," has now been entered into the record as a full exhibit, "Board Exhibit 29 – Under Seal."

Ms. Dole's expert witness, Charles Moser, PhD, MD, FACP, was contacted via telephone in San Francisco, CA for testimony. After a very lengthy discussion as to whether or not Dr. Moser was an unbiased, expert witness, Mary Brown moved that the Board accept Dr. Moser as an expert witness. The motion was seconded by Ellen Komar and passed with all in favor with the exception of Maria Pietrantuono who was opposed. Testimony was provided by Dr. Moser. Gina Reiners left the meeting at 3PM. Dr. Moser's testimony completed at approximately 3:15 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 3:35 PM .

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing