

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on October 1, 2014 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
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN
Robin Rettig Cattanio, LPN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ellen M. Komar, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulations and Compliance, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Linda Fazzino, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Diane Wilan, 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 8:45 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Vinal Tech, Goodwin College, and Porter and Chester Institute – Rocky Hill Campus.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard had nothing new to report to the Board at this time. Will provide the NCSBN update later in today's meeting.

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

The Board Office received a request from Attorney Leon Ahern to reorder the hearings on today's agenda. Attorney Ahern is representing Andrea Bunnell, LPN, and has a scheduling conflict and will arrive late. If Attorney Ahern has not arrived at the conclusion of today's scheduled hearings, the Andrea Bunnell hearing will be held at the Board's next available hearing date which is December 3, 2015. Chair Bouffard approved Attorney Ahern's request for reordering of the hearings and/or continuation of the hearing to the next available date.

Also, DPH received notification from the NCSBN regarding the implementation of the NCLEX Exam in Canada. Pamela Pelletier-Stevens will update the Board regarding the Canadian Transition and use of the NCLEX during Correspondence/Scope of Practice discussion.

In the packets that were mailed out to all Board Members prior to today's meeting, there was a letter received in the Board Office regarding the Porter and Chester Institute's Enfield and Rocky Hill Campus vacancies, advising the Board that all vacancies have been filled.

Also, in the Board's packets was a letter the Board had requested from Mr. James Murphy's therapist, which will be placed in Mr. Murphy's file.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

There is nothing new to report at this time.

SCHOOL ISSUES: YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING – FIVE YEAR STUDY REVIEW

Dr. Margaret Grey, Dean, and Philip Martinez, GEPN Program, presented the Board with Yale's Five Year Study. Pamela Pelletier-Stevens provided her review of the five-year survey report. Dr. Grey and Mr. Martinez answered questions from the Board. Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, to accept Yale School of Nursing's Five-Year Report. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Geraldine Marrocco, who recused herself, and Jennifer Long who abstained. The next report will be due in October of 2019. Chair Bouffard commented that this was an excellent report although she requested that in all future school reports that the pages be numbered.

Geraldine Marrocco, Jennifer Long, and Board's Counsel Alfreda Gaither arrived during the presentation due to traffic tie ups.

SCHOOL ISSUES: THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Edith Ouellet was present from the program to request a one-year faculty education waiver for Bernadette Marshall. The Board reviewed the documentation presented. Ms. Marshall is a matriculated MSN student with an anticipated graduation date of May 2016. Mary Brown moved to grant the temporary one-year faculty education waiver request for Ms. Marshall. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed with one opposition: Geraldine Marrocco.

SCHOOL ISSUES: NCLEX SCORES – SIX MONTH UPDATE

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens reviewed the NCLEX Scores from May 1, 2014 through September 22, 2014 with the Board.

NCLEX – RN:

The following RN Programs were placed on Conditional Status at the June 4, 2014 Nursing Board Meeting. Below is a list of their most recent scores.

St. Vincent's College Day Program: Scores have improved from 63% to 97%. 37 students took the exam and 36 passed.

St. Vincent's College Evening Program: Scores identified that four students took the exam and passed. This elevated their score from 55% to 100% currently. (Four students were more than likely late test takers.)

Central CT State University: Scores have improved from 69% to 80% so far. 46 students took and exam and 37 passed.

University of Saint Joseph CT: Scores have improved from 76% to 87.5% so far. 48 students took the exam and 42 passed.

The following RN Programs failed to meet the 80% first time pass rate.

Bridgeport Hospital Accelerated Program: Only three students took the exam and two passed. (Three students were more than likely late test takers and not a graduation class. The last class graduated in December of 2013.)

Gateway Community College: 79.66% - 59 students took the exam and 47 passed.

Norwalk Community College: 77.14% - 35 students took the exam and 27 passed.

NCLEX – PN:

The CT Technical High School System LPN Programs remain on Conditional Status for the 2nd consecutive year effective June 4, 2014. Their last graduation class was in January of 2014 so their NCLEX scores are reflective of late test takers.

A. I. Prince Program: 40% - ten took the exam and four passed.

Eli Whitney: 66.67% - six took the exam and four passed.

Vinal: 60% - five took the exam and three passed.

The following LPN Programs failed to meet the 80% first time pass rate.

W. F. Kaynor: 62.5% - eight students took the exam and five passed. Their NCLEX scores are reflective of late test takers.

Stone Academy – West Haven Campus: 52% - 25 students sat for the exam and 13 passed.

Porter and Chester Institute – Stratford Campus: 72.7% - 11 students sat for the exam and 8 passed.

Porter and Chester Institute – Watertown Campus: 72.7% - 11 students sat for the exam and 8 passed.

Lincoln Technical Institute – New Britain Campus – Day Program: 61% - 18 students took the exam and 11 passed.

Lincoln Technical Institute – Hamden Campus – Day and Evening Programs: Evening 72.7% - 11 students took the exam and 8 passed. The entire LTI Hamden Campus closed on June 23, 2014.

All RN and LPN Programs received a copy of their scores and student roster including out-of-state test takers.

The Board requested that the NCLEX be reviewed two times per year. Will review in 2015 for the time period of May 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE – CORRESPONDENCE/STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens reviewed the calls into the Board Office during the month of August, 2015. There were several APRN calls regarding the new 2014 collaborative agreement requirements, which are posted on the BOEN Web Page. Also, there were two inquiries as to whether or not an APRN could be supervised by a PA.

There were also several calls regarding RN Scope of practice including practicing in a medical spa, RN case management, medication administration in home care setting, reporting medication errors, performing ultrasound exams, provide cannulation during a cosmetic procedure, and working below the level of their license.

There were also four calls regarding LPN scope of practice and who can supervise. An LPN cannot work under the direction of an MD. They can only work under the direction of an APRN or an RN. LPNs cannot perform patient assessment, topics included: scope of practice in medical spas which will no longer be permitted to perform cosmetic procedures which becomes effective today, October 1, 2014 per Public Act 14-119.

DPH received notification from the NCSBN regarding the implementation of the NCLEX Exam in Canada in 2014. No later than October 1, 2014 the NCLEX Administration Website will have changes regarding ethnicity, exam name language, and candidate exam history.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE

The NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD) held a brief meeting immediately following the Delegate Assembly in August. Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director of the Delaware Board of Nursing, was appointed by the BOD to the Area IV position on the Leadership Succession Committee and Pam agreed to serve.

The BOD met again September 4-5, 2014 for a full meeting. Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director of the Georgia Board of Nursing, was appointed by the BOD to serve as the Area III Director. This position became vacant due to the selection of Kathy Thomas as the President-Elect. According to the BCSBN Bylaws, Jim will serve in this position until August 2015 when the election will be held. Again, the BOD was gratified that Jim agreed to serve.

The BOD reviewed and approved the financial statements of the Finance Committee, the fiscal year 2015 budget, and the audit plan for fiscal year 2014 engagements. The BOD stated that the organization is in good financial health.

Updates were provided on federal government affairs and other activities including increasing the NCSBN's present in Washington, D.C. with government entities and the nurse policy community. Discussions included the telehealth and interstate nursing practice mobility, licensure portability, and implementation of the APRN consensus model. Congressman Thompson removed licensure language from H.R. 5380, the Medicare Telehealth Parity Act, and after careful review, NCSBN staff voice public support for the legislation as recognition of the importance of advancing telehealth legislation at the federal level while maintaining a state-based licensing model. The results of the Transition to Practice Study were present and should be coming out soon.

Appointments were made to the Fraud Detection Committee, as member boards had reported increased incidences of fraud in the application process. The committee is charged with identifying best practices for detecting fraud and guidelines for the utilization of FITS regarding applicant fraud.

There will be a retreat in October for the BOD to discuss future detection and programs for the NCSBN. There will be more conversations with the BOD on where the journey might take everyone and the road for success.

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens will be attending the NCSBN's Internal Investigator's Meeting in Chicago at the end of October, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 20, 2014 MINUTES

The Board reviewed the August 20, 2014 minutes. Geraldine Marrocco moved, which was seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with three abstentions: Carrie Simon, Gina Reiners, and Jennifer Long.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – GREGORY KLIMAYTIS, RN

The Board was e-mailed the final MOD for Mr. Klimaytis. After review and discussion, Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Mr. Klimaytis' RN license is to remain on probation under the same terms and conditions of the Consent Order signed on February 6, 2013. There were no additional probationary terms added. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – CHRISTINE HETRICK-SHAMASNA, RN

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Christine Hetrick-Shamasna. Ms. Hetrick-Shamasna was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Orders scheduling the hearing for November 5, 2014.

CONSENT ORDER – ROBIN ANNECHARICO, RN

OLRC Principal Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Consent Order for Robin Annecharico. Ms. Annecharico was present pro se. Mary Brown moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners and motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – ALICE MILLER, RN

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Consent Order for Alice Miller. Ms. Miller was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – MICHAEL TELLA, RN

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Consent Order for Michael Tella. Mr. Tella was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – KATHRYN A. JAWORSKI, LPN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Kathryn A. Jaworski. Ms. Jaworski was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Mary Brown moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER – ERIKA L. WETTEMANN, RN

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Reinstatement Consent Order for Erika L. Wettemann. Ms. Wettemann was present pro se. Gina Reiners moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER – LAURA KISATSKY, RN

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Reinstatement Consent Order for Laura Kisatsky. Ms. Kisatsky was present pro se. Gina Reiners moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

HEARING – CATHALEEN DAHM, RN

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Dahm was not present and did not have representation at this hearing. Board's Counsel reviewed the file and stated that all reasonable attempts were made to notify Ms. Dahm of today's hearing. Attorney Newton made an Oral Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Carrie Simon moved to grant the Department's Motion to Deem, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, and passed unanimously. There was no testimony provided.

Jennifer Long moved that Ms. Dahm be found as charged. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners and passed with all in favor with the exception of Mary Brown and Geraldine Marrocco who were opposed. The motion carried.

Mary Brown then motioned that the Department get Ms. Dahm's complete file from HAVEN. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco. The motion failed as only Mary Brown and Geraldine Marrocco were in favor.

Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Dahm's license be revoked. Ms. Dahm did not file an Answer to the Statement of Charges, she did not attend today's hearing, and she did not contact the Board Office or the Department with the reason for her non-attendance. The Board noted that in the Drug Control Report, Ms. Dahm did admit abuse. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Mary Brown and Geraldine Marrocco, who were both opposed.

HEARING – NINA M. VECCHIARELLI, RN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Vecchiarelli was present with counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Testimony was provided by Ms. Vecchiarelli. Geraldine Marrocco left prior to Respondent's Closing Statement.

Mary Brown moved that Ms. Vecchiarelli be found as charged. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Robbin Cattanio, that Ms. Vecchiarelli's license be reprimanded. Ms. Vecchiarelli has completed the educational coursework that was requested at her Prehearing Review as she did not understand the error immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 12:37 PM.

STUDENTS

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

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** had scheduled a meeting on October 15, 2014 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

At their May 7, 2014 meeting the Board revised their calendar for the remainder of 2014.

At that time the October 15, 2014 meeting was cancelled.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing