

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING
DATE: April 19, 2023
TIME: 8:30 am
LOCATION: Via (Microsoft TEAMS)/In--Person

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)		DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, DNSc, Chairperson	RN Member	Y		Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant	Y
Jason Blando	Public	N		Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	Y			
Lisa S. Freeman, BA	Public	N			
Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC	APRN Member	Y			
Geraldine Marrocco, EdD, APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP	RN Member	Y			
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y			
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS	RN Member	Y			
Brett Prestia, MD	Public Member	Y			

CHAIR UPDATES:

Annual meeting is in Chicago August 16th- 18th. NCLEX conference 9/21 virtual. Attended contemporary issues in governance. Would like to see how independent boards are difference from regional boards. Had a president’s meeting and a lot about iv hydration.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Agenda attached)

- A new summary suspension for Herbert Terry III is added. Cynthia Arpin moved to amend the agenda to add the summary suspension. Geraldine Marrocco seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Gina Reiners moved to approve the agenda as revised. Brett Prestia seconded. Unanimously approved.

- Request for Continuance for Nicole Slonski matter.
Geraldine Marrocco moved to add the Request to the agenda.
Mary Dietmann seconded.
Unanimously approved.

Open Forum: Sara Johnson – recently joined the CT Nurses Honor Guard which does tributes to nurses who have passed away. Have a nightingale light and right rose and do a final roll call to release the nurse from her duties. Called for membership if anyone is interested.

Capital Community College Nursing student called in regarding HIV textbooks with outdated information.

Request for Continuance: Nicole Slonski requested continuance of her hearing to retain counsel. (remains summarily suspended). Attorney Fazzina objected because she has requested past requests and has had “ample time.” Ms. Slonski had one previous request to continue.

Geraldine Marrocco moved to grant.
Mary Dietmann seconded.
Brett Prestia opposed.
All other members voted to grant the request.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing – Update: Board Member Mary Dietmann presented - learned a lot about Artificial Intelligence. Remote proctoring will be occurring on the NCLEX at some point. CHATGpt was discussed. NCSBN is not going to lower the passing standard. Discussions with others schools revealed that they are lowering their standards and relying on students to take the NCLEX to determine whether they are safe to practice. There was also discussion about telehealth.

MINUTES:

June 15, 2022:

Cynthia Arpin moved to approve.
Geraldine Marrocco seconded.
Jennifer Long abstained.
Unanimously approved.

July 20, 2022:

Geraldine Marrocco moved to approve.

Mary Dietmann seconded.
Cynthia Arpin abstained.
Unanimously approved.

November 16, 2022:

Mary Dietmann moved to approve.
Geraldine Marrocco seconded.

Jennifer Long noted that she was present during the November 16, 2022 meeting and the minutes need to be edited to reflect her presence.

Mary made friendly amendment to her motion and moved to approve the November 16, 2022 minutes with edit.
Geraldine Marrocco seconded.
Brett Prestia abstained.
Unanimously approved.

THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE, INC – Monthly Update: Linda Wagner and Marcia Proto presented.

NEW BUSINESS

- August 23, 2023 National meeting.

Mary Dietmann moved to move the August 2023 meeting to August 9th

Cynthia Arpin seconded.
Unanimously approved.

SCHOOL ISSUES

- Stone Academy Update – Sean Seepersad, Office of Higher Education – There will be an audit of the students' transcripts.
- United States Department of Education – Jennifer Uhlir – discussed student loans for Stone students. Students have an option to apply for a school loan discharge when a school has closed. If they continue in a new program, they cannot apply for the discharge if they be using some of the credits obtained with loan funds will transfer to the next school.
- Arizona College of Nursing – Leadership Transition: Present - Judy McKenna, Nick Mansour, Vincent Salyers (Dean of East Hartford campus), Diane Smith-Levina (Inaugural Dean of East Hartford). Seeking approval of Dr. Salyers as Dean.

Gina Reiners moved to accept the appointment of Vincent Salyers as the Dean of Nursing at East Hartford campus.
Brett Prestia seconded.

Geraldine Marrocco and Mary Dietmann abstained.
Unanimously approved.

- CT Center for Nursing Workforce, Inc. – Presented by Marcia Proto. Analysis of 2022 Student Data of CT RN and LPN Pre-Licensure Programs. Still only accept 25% of qualified nursing applicants. Schools are not maximizing their capacity for the RN programs. Mary Dietmann made a request for more updated numbers to be posted on-line.
- Eastern Connecticut State University – Notice of Intent to Establish a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing. Yaw Nsiah, Chairman of Health Sciences. (FYI only – no votes taken)
- Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers – Approval for Second Campus: Amanda Bell, Dean for school of Allied Health. Presented letter of intent for Board’s information only (no votes taken). (727 Robert Avenue in Naugatuck) To help bring on Stone Academy students.
- Goodwin University – Notice of Intent to Begin a Licensed Practical Nurse Program (Missy Quinlan, Michael Pardales, Vivienne Friday (Interim Dean of Nursing – all present) (FYI only – no votes taken) projected start-up Fall 2023 full-time day, part-time evening.
- Quinnipiac School of Nursing – Application for Permanent Waiver, Tina M. Pascoe, RN, BSN, MHA, JD for Adjunct Clinical Faculty in Nursing 323: Women, Children, and Families Practicum.

Gina Reiners moved to approve.
Jennifer Long seconded.
Unanimously approved.

- Quinnipiac School of Nursing – Application for Permanent Waiver, Giuseppina M. Violano, BSN, MPH, PhD for selected graduate courses and clinical experiences. (Nursing 304 – Health Promotion and Wellness, Nursing 428- Community and Public Health Nursing, Nursing 429- Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum, Nursing 408 - Evidence-Based Nursing Practice and Scholarship, Nursing 320 – Care of Children and Families, Nursing 323 – Women, Children and Families Practicum) . She will not be teaching all of these courses at once.

Geraldine Marrocco moved to approve
Cynthia Arpin seconded.
Unanimously approved.

- ReNurse Academy – Brittney Faison presented updates regarding the Licensed Practical Nurse and RN Refresher Courses. Noted there is involvement with the Stone Academy.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

- Danielle Dragon Reinstatement Request:

Geraldine Marrocco moved to affirm.

Jennifer Long seconded.

Unanimously approved.

- Rachel Pisani Petition Nos. 2021-1209, 2021-1223:

Geraldine Marrocco moved to affirm.

Mary Dietmann seconded.

Unanimously approved.

- Lisa Simon Petition No. 2021-578:

Geraldine Marrocco moved to affirm.

Jennifer Long seconded.

Unanimously approved.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION:

Herbert Terri III, LPN

Mary Dietmann moved to grant.

Cynthia Arpin seconded.

Unanimously granted. (Geraldine Marrocco and Brett Prestia not present for vote)

MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

- Christine Trombino, RN* Petition No. 2020-895

Staff Attorney Aden Baume withdrew the Motion for Continuance. Attorney Baume moved to withdraw the statement of charges based on Respondent's voluntary surrender of her license (written Motion to withdraw the statement of charges and voluntary surrender agreement included in Board's agenda packet).

Gina Reiners moved to grant the motion to withdraw the statement of charges

Jennifer Long seconded.

Unanimously granted (Geraldine Marrocco and Brett Prestia not present for vote)

REQUEST FOR LICENSE REINSTATEMENT HEARING

- Katie Ann Martins: Petitioner failed to appear. Attorney Linda Fazzina objected based on lack of updated information.

Jennifer Long moved to deny the request.

Gina Reiners seconded.

The motion was unanimously approved. (Geraldine Marrocco and Brett Prestia not present for vote)

CONSENT ORDERS

- Lisa N. Haut, APRN, RN Petition Nos. 2021-1196, 2022-899 Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina;

Jennifer Long moved to accept the consent order.

Gina Reiners seconded.

Unanimously accepted. (Geraldine Marrocco and Brett Prestia not present for vote)

PREHEARING REVIEW

- Kathleen D. Cataford, RN Petition No. 2022-423 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton; Attorney Richard Brown on behalf Respondent.

Board recommendations based on file presented: Concerns expressed regarding HIPAA violations, confidentiality and discriminatory conduct. Suggestions: civil penalty up to \$25,000; coursework in professional ethics, HIPAA, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; or revocation for egregiousness of conduct, violation of the ANA Code of Ethics and Nurse Practice Act, and lack of remorse

HEARINGS

- Selena M. Acocella, LPN, RN Petition Nos. 2020-977, 2021-190 Staff Attorney Aden Baume for the Department. Attorney William Palmieri for Respondent.

(Rebecca Martinez left, Brett Prestia and Geraldine Marrocco returned).

Hearing commenced but continued to allow the Board to listen to recordings. Hearing to reconvene May 17, 2023, unless parties or counsel unavailable.

- Tiona A. Stewart, LPN* Petition Number: 2023-151 Staff Attorney Aden Baume Respondent answered on the record. Admitted to all except 5a, 5b, and 5c.

(Rebecca Martinez not present)

Mary Dietmann found allegations 1-4 (admitted), Did not find for 5a (Dept. failed to meet its burden of proof), but did find for 5b, and 5c.

Jerri seconded.

Unanimously agreed.

Mary Dietmann moved to continue Respondent on the Consent Order already in place and to vacate the summary suspension immediately.

Cynthia Arpin seconded.

Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn made by: Geraldine Marrocco

Seconded by: Cynthia Arpin

VOTE: Unanimous

Adjourned at: [Time:4:45 pm]

Patricia C Bouffard, RN, DNSc
Chairperson