

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on December 3, 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
Ellen M. Komar, RN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN – *left at noon*
Gina M. Reiners, RN
Robin Rettig Cattanio, LPN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jennifer Long, APRN

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Linda Fazzina, 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 8:40 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Norwalk Community College, Lincoln Technical Institute, Porter and Chester Institute, - Enfield Campus, and the University of Saint Joseph CT.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard discussed the CT Nursing Collaborative Action Coalition Site Visit. Diane Cybulski attended the CNCAC Meeting.

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

Legislative Update – Kathy Boulware has a scheduling conflict and asked that she be taken out of order when she arrives.

Goodwin College - Janice Costello has a scheduling conflict this morning and asked if the Board could reorder the Agenda if she arrives later than scheduled on the agenda.

Andrea Bunnell, RN, Hearing – Attorney Leo Ahern has a scheduling conflict and asked if the Board could reorder the Agenda if he arrives later than scheduled on the agenda.

FYI – Mailed to the Board Members in their Agenda Packets - St. Vincent's College is discontinuing their Evening/Weekend Programs, effective January 2015.

Kelli M. Russell, RN – Continuance Request received via e-mail in Board Office at 3:15 PM on December 2, 2014 – Chair Bouffard granted the continuance request. The hearing will be rescheduled for January 21, 2015.

TRANSITION TO ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSIONS

Marianne Horn, Legal Director of the Department of Public Health, and Alison Rau, Paralegal Specialist at DPH, were present to follow-through with the Board's first agenda packet documents which were posted on the DPH Secure Web Site. Hard copies were also mailed to the Board Members this month. As everyone has been made aware, the Department is phasing out paper agenda packets. The Board's contact person is Alison Rau at 860-509-7977 or at alison.rau@ct.gov. Ms. Rau provided the Board with a short presentation regarding logging into the DPH secure Web Site. She also discussed several ways to download the documents, how to make notes on PAF documents, saving to a thumb drive, etc. The Board had concerns about getting "timed out" and requested that the allowed time be extended before being timed out. Ms. Rau said she would contact and discuss this with the DPH IT Department.

SCHOOL ISSUES:

ST. VINCENT'S COLLEGE – FYI FOR THE MINUTES RE: CLOSING OF EVENING/WEEKEND PROGRAMS

The Board Office received a letter dated November 17, 2014 from Dr. Karen L. Barnett, Dean of Nursing, regarding the discontinuation of the Evening/Weekend ADN Programs, effective January 2015. St. Vincent's admitted their last Evening/Weekend Class in August of 2014 and did provide their "teach out plan" through October 2016, which is their expected graduation date. The last class of 32 enrolled in August of 2014. The total number of students admitted to the St. Vincent's Nursing Program will remain the same at 120 students in the fall and 40 students in the spring.

CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program were Dr. Margaret Levvis, Chairperson of the CCSU Nursing Department, and Professor Nancy Peer. Dr. Levvis is requesting a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Donna McKeehan. Ms. McKeehan is a fully matriculated student in the MSN Nursing Education Program at Sacred Heart University with an expected graduation date of June, 2015. Gina Reiners moved to grant Ms. McKeehan a one-year temporary faculty education waiver. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING – ADMINISTRATION CHANGE

Present from the program were Dr. Carol Papp, the current Program Administrator for the BHSON, and Dr. Linda Podolak, Associate Director. The BHSON has appointed a New Director of their Nursing Program. Dr. Linda Podolak has over 18 years' experience at the school and has been the Associate Director of the school for the last three years. Once approved by the Board, Dr. Podolak will assume the position of Director of the Nursing Program on December 28, 2014. Mary Brown moved to accept Dr. Podolak's credentials as meeting the requirements of the DPH Nursing Education Programs and Licensure Requirements. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners, and passed unanimously.

UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT – DEAN APPOINTMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present at this meeting to table this discussion to the January 21, 2015 meeting.

UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT – FEASIBILITY STUDY

Present from the program were Dr. Carol Papp and Dr. Stephen Healy, Associate Provost. The Board reviewed the Feasibility Study for the University of Bridgeport that was presented. After discussion, Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the Feasibility Study. The motion failed as it was unanimously opposed. The Revised Feasibility Study will be presented to the Board at their January 21, 2015 meeting. The Board stated that there were several concerns that must be addressed before the study can be presented to the Board. Also, the report is to be received by the Board 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

The Board requested the following information:

- Based upon the completed surveys, there is insufficient information to support the need for a BSN program in the Bridgeport area. The survey response rate was only 18% of the surveys sent out. The BOEN requests at least a 50% return rate and stated that the survey be re-sent to the programs that did not respond to the survey request as this information is required in order to make a decision to ensure that there is a demonstrated need and minimal overlap to existing BSN programs;
- Strengthen clinical site data;
- Clarify number of faculty to be hired; and,
- Remove the RN-BSN data within the study to eliminate confusion - including budget information.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kathleen Boulware was present to update the Board on DPH Legislative Issues for the 2015 Legislative Session. DPH proposals are at OPM and the Governor's Office and the Department is awaiting approval on what they are proposing.

GOODWIN COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Janice Costello, Director of the ADN Nursing Program at Goodwin College, was unable to attend this meeting due to a scheduling conflict. Ms. Costello is requesting a six-month faculty education waiver for Robin Cournoyer, who is currently enrolled in the MSN Program at the University of Connecticut and is expected to graduate in May of 2015. The Board tabled this waiver request to their January 21, 2015 meeting as they would like Ms. Cournoyer to submit an updated resume reflecting her current experience in Pediatric Care and the responsibilities of each role.

STONE ACADEMY – CURRICULUM CHANGE

Present from the program were Joseph Bierbaum, President, Dale DeMille, Program Manager for State Academy, Gina Kolstad, and Ceil Mann, and seated in the audience was Eleanor Davio. After review and discussion of the documents presented, Mary Brown moved to approve Stone Academy's request for their curriculum change of the theory and clinical syllabi for the new 1800 hour program. The motion was seconded by Ellen Komar and passed unanimously. Now that the Board has approved their curriculum change, they will be seeking approval from the Office of Higher Education.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INQUIRIES – OCTOBER 2014

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens reviewed the calls received in the Board Office during the month of October.

When reviewing the Scope of Practice calls for the Month of October, it appears that APRN's are still unsure of the new regulation requirements and have called the Department regarding their employers insisting on collaborative agreements when the regulation states it is no longer necessary. This is an employer-employee issue. APRN's no longer need a collaborative agreement if they can prove they had been in a collaborative agreement for not less than three years and performed not less than 2000 hours. Please refer to Advanced Practice – Independent/Collaborative Practice on the BOEN Web Page.

In addition, the Department completed numerous NCSBN surveys.

There were also several calls as to whether or not LPNs can work in an MD Office. LPNs may work in a medical office under the direction of an RN **not the MD**. There were the usual questions regarding Botox and Dermafillers for which there is the need to prove experience and clinical expertise – refer to Decision Tree.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE

Chair Bouffard stated that the license renewal survey was approved by the NCSBN and they had provided support to the Boards in implementing it as part of the renewal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

OCTOBER 1, 2014

Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Mary Brown, that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention: Ellen Komar.

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Carrie Simon, that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention: Mary Brown.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER - PHILLIP ROCKET, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney, Brittany Allen, presented the Board with a Reinstatement Consent Order for Phillip Rocket. Mr. Rockett was present pro se. After review of the documents presented, Gina Reiners moved to grant the Reinstatement Consent Order for Mr. Rocket as presented. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Reinstatement Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – ANDREW TUDESCO, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, presented the Board with a Consent Order for Andrew Tudesco. Mr. Tudesco was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Gina Reiners moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed with two opposed: Lisa Freeman and Robin Rettig-Cattanio. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – ANTHONY SAVINO, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, presented the Board with a Consent Order for Anthony Savino. Mr. Savino was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Lisa Freeman moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – VALERIE CORMIER, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, presented the Board with a Consent Order for Valerie Cormier. Ms. Cormier was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Carrie Simon moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco for discussion. The motion failed as all were opposed. It was the recommendation of the Board that Ms. Cormier have eight hours of observed med passes, and coursework in nursing strategies and the care of the elderly and confused patient.

CONSENT ORDER – REBECCA PEPE, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney, Diane Wilan, presented the Board with a Consent Order for Rebecca Pepe. Ms. Pepe 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 Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – KRISTINE R. ALEXANDER, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Kristine R. Alexander. Ms. Alexander was not present and did not have representation at this meeting.

Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Lisa Freeman, to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Motion for Summary Suspension scheduling the hearing for January 21, 2015.

Break 10:52 AM – 11:20 AM

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

The Board reviewed the following Memoranda of Decision (MOD).

JENNIFER SULLIVAN, RN

Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Sullivan's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

JAMES MURPHY, RN/APRN

Gina Reiners moved, which was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Mr. Murphy's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

LAUREEN MORGAN RN

Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Morgan's license on probation for one year. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

JAMES SNOW, RN

Gina Reiners moved, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Mr. Snow's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

PREHEARING REVIEW – LORI KAREN SALUPEN, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a PreHearing Review for Lori Karen Salupen. Ms. Salupen was not present and did not have representation at this meeting.

It was the recommendation of the Board that Ms. Salupen's June 4, 2014 Consent Order remain in effect. No additional sanctions were recommended by the Board.

Attorney Scoville requested a short break, which was granted by the Board, from 11:40 AM to 11:45 AM.

HEARING – MICHAL KARBOWSKI, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Mr. Karbowski was present pro se. Mr. Karbowski requested a continuance of today's hearing. Geraldine Marrocco moved to grant Mr. Karbowski's continuance request. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Mr. Karbowski's hearing has been continued to February 18, 2015.

Geraldine Marrocco left for the day at noon.

HEARING – ANDREA BUNNELL, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Bunnell was present with counsel, Attorney Leo E. Ahern. Testimony was provided by Ms. Bunnell. At this point Mary Brown moved that the Board go into Executive Session to question Ms. Bunnell on her medical records. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon at 12:20 PM and the room was cleared of all visitors. After the completion of Ms. Bunnell's testimony regarding her medical records, Mary Brown moved that the Board move back into a Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Gina Reiners at 1:00 PM and all visitors were invited back into the room. The hearing closed.

Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, to find Ms. Bunnell as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Bunnell's license be placed on probation for two years with weekly drug/alcohol screens and therapist reports weekly for the entire probationary period and she is to attend at least four support groups meetings per week. Once employed as a nurse there are to be monthly employer reports. During the entire probationary period Ms. Bunnell shall not be employed as a nurse for a personnel provider service, assisted living services agency, homemaker-home health aide agency, or home health care agency, and shall not be self-employed as a nurse. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – KAREN V. HAMLEY, RN

OLRC Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Hamley was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Due to a question regarding proof of service, this hearing will be rescheduled to January 21, 2015 and notice will be sent to both addresses provided by the Office of Licensure Regulation and Compliance via certified mail, return receipt requested, and also first class mail.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 2:30 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