

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on September 1, 2010 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Katherine Pellerin, RN
Kathy K. Shea, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Darling, LPN
Danielle O'Connell, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Mertie Terry, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Owens, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, DPH
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Tynan E. Cooney, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:59 AM.

STUDENTS

There were no students in attendance at this meeting.

CHAIR UPDATES

Veronica Kivela resigned from the BOEN on August 30, 2010. Veronica was appointed to the Board by Governor Rell in December, 2008. Veronica was a great asset to the Board and to the nursing community. We are very fortunate to have members willing to volunteer their time for the regulation of the profession of nursing.

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

St. Vincent's College – Plan of Correction

UPDATES

Jennifer Filippone provided the Board with an update on the Legislative Program Review and Investigation Committee.

Jennifer Filippone also provided the Board with an update on the progress made with the NCSBN and NURSUS working towards Connecticut becoming a fully participating licensure state.

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING – CAROL GABRIELE – NEW ADMINISTRATOR

The Board reviewed documentation presented regarding Carol Gabriele's appointment as the new administrator to the Bridgeport Hospital School of Nursing Program. Dr. Gabriele has been employed with this program in several capacities since 1988, including Director of the School of Nursing since 2001. Katherine Pellerin moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to accept Carol Gabriele as the new Administrator for Bridgeport Hospital School of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously. The Board congratulated Dr. Gabriele and wished her well in her new position as Administrator.

CT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL – SITE VISITS FOR THE SIX PROGRAMS WHICH ARE RESTARTING

Patricia Fennessy was present for this discussion. Pam Pelletier provided an update regarding the site visits for the six programs which are restarting with orientation scheduled for January 3, 2011. The programs restarting are as follows: A. I. Prince in Hartford, Bullard Havens in Bridgeport, Eli Whitney in Hamden, Vinal Tech in Middletown, and W. F. Kaynor in Waterbury. The space allotted for these five programs will easily accommodate 40 students and there was adequate equipment and supplies to start the programs. Also restarting on January 3, 2011 is the Norwich Tech Program which can easily accommodate 50 students and there also was adequate equipment and supplies to start the program. No Department Heads, faculty, and/or secretarial staff had been rehired at the date of the on-site reviews. The purpose of the on-site visit was to establish that the programs had adequate space and supplies available to restart the programs as previously approved by the Board.

A.I. PRINCE – HARTFORD

The on-site review was performed on August 17, 2010. The nursing program is located on the second floor with elevator and handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in November of 2009. There were no noted changes in supplies and/or equipment since the last report.

BULLARD HAVENS – BRIDGEPORT

The on-site review was performed on August 19, 2010. The nursing program is located on the first floor with handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in November of 2009. There are no noted changes in supplies and/or equipment since the last report.

ELI WHITNEY – HAMDEN

The on-site review was performed on August 17, 2010. The nursing program is located on the first floor with handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in April of 2008. There were no noted changes in supplies and/or equipment since the last report.

VINAL TECH – MIDDLETOWN

The on-site review was performed on August 17, 2010. This nursing program is located on the first floor with handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in November of 2008. There were no noted changes in supplies and/or equipment since the last report.

NORWICH TECH

The on-site review was performed on August 17, 2010. The nursing program is located on the first floor with handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in May of 2009 and is currently working on submission of their five-year study for the November 3, 2010 Board meeting. Additional computers are slated to be installed prior to the restart of the

program from another campus and a revisit will be scheduled after computer installation prior to starting the program.

W. F. KAYNOR – WATERBURY

The on-site review was performed on August 19, 2010. The nursing program is located on the first floor with handicap access into the building. This program was reviewed by the Board in June of 2008. There were no noted changes in supplies and/or equipment since the last report. This site will also require a revisit prior to starting the program due to being in the process of relocation within the building and to ensure it has been set up appropriately.

The Board requested that Ms. Fennessy provide an update regarding the resumption of these LPN programs along with the designated Nursing Director for each site and faculty hires at the November 3, 2010 meeting. Also, Ms. Fennessy is to contact Pam Pelletier prior to December 1, 2010 to schedule a revisit to the W. F. Kaynor and Norwich Tech locations.

PORTER AND CHESTER FIVE-YEAR SURVEY

Phyllis DelMastro was present for this discussion. Pam Pelletier provided the Board with the review of the five-year study for the Watertown campus. Katherine Pellerin moved to approve the five-year self-study, seconded by Jennifer Long, and requested the following changes and additional information be provided: establishment of a readmission policy and add to student handbook, list competencies identified for the student in Criterion 2, delete student names on submitted survey forms, and develop statement regarding how and when faculty helps determine curriculum for Criterion 13. The motion passed unanimously.

ST. VINCENT'S COLLEGE

A Plan of Correction was provided by Joanne Wolfertz, Vice President and Dean, Margo McCarthy, Chair, and Joanne Capasso, Dean of Academic Affairs. The Board reviewed the NCLEX percentage for the graduating class of May 2010. There were twenty-four graduates, twenty-one students took the NCLEX and fourteen students passed the exam with a pass rate of 66.6%. This percentile places the school's evening program on conditional status. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to accept the Plan of Correction provided with the following changes: effective dates of intervention, and upon completion of the shortened evening program, a graduation date to ensure that they are eligible to sit for the NCLEX exam. The motion passed unanimously. The Board may request interim reports prior to the next graduating class.

NCLEX SCORES – SECOND QUARTER

The RN first time pass rate for Connecticut from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 was calculated to be 93.4%. 1,467 students sat for the exam during this time frame.

The LPN first time pass rate for Connecticut from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 was calculated to be 92.5%. 873 students sat for the exam during this time frame.

Pam Pelletier will be attending a NCLEX seminar later this month and report back to the Board at the October 6, 2010 meeting.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE – JUNE & JULY, 2010

Diane Cybulski reviewed the scope of practice calls received in the Board Office during the months of June and July, 2010. So far it has been a very busy summer regarding scope of practice calls.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

The NCSBN Annual Meeting was held in Portland, Oregon, August 11 – 13, 2010, to consider pertinent association business with its Member Boards. All 60 Member Boards were represented by delegates. Connecticut was represented by Chair Patricia Bouffard, RN Member Mary Brown, and APRN Member Jennifer Long.

The following is a list of highlights of some of the significant actions approved by the Member Boards:

- Adoption of revision to the NCSBN Bylaws;
- Revision to the NCSBN Mission Statement;
- Acceptance of the 2011-2013 Strategies Initiatives;
- Approval of the Bermuda Nursing Council, the College of Licensed Practice Nurses of Alberta and the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia as associate members of NCSBN;
- Revisions to the NCSBN Model Practice Act and Administrative Rules;
- Adoption of the Guiding Principles for Continued Competence;
- Approval of the April 2011 NCLEX-PN Test Plan; and
- Election of new directors to the Board of Directors and members of the Leadership Succession Committee.

"One of the most important outcomes of this meeting was the delegates' adoption of a new mission statement for the organization. Delegates embraced the need for an updated and more inclusive mission that focused on regulatory excellence for public protection," commented newly elected NCSBN President Myra A. Broadway, JD, MS, RN, Executive Director, Maine State Board of Nursing. She continued, "In addition, I know that the opportunity to network and debate important issues during this meeting will positively influence the work members perform in their jurisdictions in the coming year." NCSBN will meet Aug. 2 - 5, 2011, in Indianapolis for its next annual Delegate Assembly.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) is a not-for-profit organization whose members include the boards of nursing in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories - American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. There are also seven associate members.

Mission: NCSBN provides education, service and research through collaborative leadership to promote regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – CAROLE RUGGIERO-RUIZ, RN

The Board reviewed the documentation provided to the Board Office from Carole Ruggiero-Ruiz. Ms. Ruggiero-Ruiz was present for this review. Jennifer Long moved and Mary Brown seconded to grant Ms. Ruggiero-Ruiz' request for a reinstatement hearing. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing will be scheduled for November 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

INTERIM CONSENT ORDER – KATHERINE MEECHAN, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with an Interim Consent Order for Katherine Meechan. Ms. Meechan was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to grant the Interim Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Interim Consent Order.

INTERIM CONSENT ORDER – RENEE KROFSSIK, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with an interim Consent Order for Renee Krofssik. Ms. Krofssik was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved and Mary Brown seconded to grant the Interim Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Interim Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – JOAN McHUGH, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Consent Order for Joan McHugh. Ms. McHugh was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention: Tarah Cherry. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

Break 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM

REINSTATEMENT HEARING – JENNIFER TELAGE-VENTURINI, LPN

Katherine Pellerin recused herself from this case. Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Telage-Venturini was present without representation at this hearing. Testimony was provided by Ms. Telage-Venturini. The hearing concluded. Due to lack of a quorum, the Fact Finding will be scheduled to take place on October 6, 2010. Board Members not in attendance will receive the hearing transcript and the exhibits.

HEARING – KATY DUCLOS, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Duclos was present without representation at this hearing. Ms. Duclos requested a continuance in order to allow time to mail releases for drug control records and therapist reports. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to grant Ms. Duclos' continuance request. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing will be rescheduled for October 6, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 11:55 AM.

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on September 15, 2010 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Heidi Darling, LPN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Danielle O'Connell, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Kathy K. Shea, Public Member
Mertie Terry, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Katherine Pellerin, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Ralph Efird, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the Henry Abbott LPN Program and UConn School of Nursing.

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

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – LUCRETIA CAMERON, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Lucretia Cameron. Ms. Cameron was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention: Tarah Cherry. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for October 6, 2010.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – ALICE MILLER, RN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Alice Miller. Ms. Miller was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for October 6, 2010.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – DEBBI MARTIN-BROWN, RN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Debbi Martin-Brown. Ms. Martin-Brown was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Heidi Darling and Danielle O'Connell arrived at this time. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for October 6, 2010.

CONSENT ORDER – WILLIAM McCONE, RN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Consent Order for William McCone. Mr. McCone was present without representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – CHERYL MARCHETTI, APRN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Consent Order for Cheryl Marchetti. Ms. Marchetti was present with Attorney Donna Zito. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Heidi Darling, to accept the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Tarah Cherry, Kathy Shea, and Mertie Terry who were opposed. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

Break 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM

HEARING – JENNIFER PRENTISS, RN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Prentiss was not present although she was represented by Attorney Jerald Barber who arrived at 10:55 AM. Attorney Barber requested a continuance as Ms. Prentiss was out of state. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to deny the continuance request. The motion passed unanimously. Testimony was provided by Kristine Nasinnyk, Drug Control Agent. The hearing concluded.

Mary Brown moved and Tarah Cherry seconded that Ms. Prentiss be found on all charges. The motion failed as all were opposed. Mary Brown amended her motion to find Ms. Prentiss on all charges with the exception of Alprazolam (Xanax). The motion was seconded by Donna Roberts and passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Tarah Cherry seconded that Ms. Prentiss' license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 12:55 PM.