

AGENDA

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTICIANS

Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 9:00 AM
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT
Third Floor Conference Room C

CALL TO ORDER

I. Minutes

Review and approval of the minutes from December 8, 2010.

II. Old Business

- Practical Examination – Images for Contact Lens Problem solving
- Jeffrey Panella, #001196 – Apprentice Training status

III. Department of Public Health Updates

A. Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH

B. Examination Update

Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst II

IV. New Business

Sunset Legislation

VI. Legal Office Business

Paul Beckert – Petition No. 2010-5674

Presentation of Consent Order Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney DPH

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and have not yet been adopted by the board.

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians held a meeting on December 8, 2010, at the Department of Public Health, Capitol Avenue, Third Floor Conference Room, Hartford, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Conlin, LO, Chairperson
René"Skip" Rivard, LO

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, RN, Practitioner Investigation Unit
Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, DPH
Alfreda Gaither, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Deborah Brown, Heath Program Assistant, DPH
Steve Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, DPH
Ohan Karagozian, Optical Student, guest

Chairperson Linda Conlin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Chairperson Conlin recognized the dedication and contributions of Ms. Loray Courchaine who recently resigned as the Public Member of the Board of Examiners for Opticians. Mr. Rivard echoed her recognition and both members of the Board agreed that her participation will be missed.

MINUTES – August 11, 2010

A motion made by Mr. Rivard and seconded by Ms. Conlin to waive the reading of the Minutes and accept them passed.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Optical Shop Renewals: Relative to the online DPH database for the optical Selling permit as reflected in the meeting minutes of May 12 and August 11, 2010, Mr. Rivard again noted that current Optical Shop renewals permits do not require the signature of the licensed optician under whose personal and direct supervision has been granted permission to sell, dispense, or supply to the ultimate wearer, optical aids to vision, etc., as described in C.G.S., Chpt. 381, § 20-153. After discussion, Mr. Carragher agreed to require the signature of the responsible licensed optician supervisor to be included in all optical shop renewal applications.

B. Practical Examination – Contact Lens Problem Solving: Mr. Rivard reported that this proposed portion of the exam is still under development. He conceptualized that when completed, the exam and its graphic components will be computer generated at the testing location. Mr. Carragher expressed his concern regarding the security of the finished exam. Mr. Rivard affirmed that the final copy of the exam will be turned over to the DPH and that no components of the exam will be maintained outside of the Department.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

A. Investigation Update: Gary Griffin reported that there are five cases under investigation. One additional case has been referred to the Department of Public Health Legal Office for further review.

He also reported one new application for an Optical Selling Permit was issued to BJ's Optical under the supervision of Francis LaChapelle, LO. In addition an OSP for "Visual Perceptions" was amended to reflect a change of address.

There is also a current investigation regarding the sale of non-prescription contact lenses by unlicensed vendors.

B. Exam Updates: Maritsa Morales reported that because the DPH had only received one application, the practical licensing exam scheduled for November 2010 had been cancelled.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Licensed Reinstatement Review – Jeffrey Panella, #001196

Deborah Brown, Health Program Assistant, Department of Public Health presented for review a license reinstatement application for Jeffrey Panella. An original request for reinstatement from August 2009 had expired. After discussion, a Plan for Reinstatement was determined. Motion by Rivard, seconded by Conlin to require three months of supervised training under the direct supervision of an optician which will include all items required during apprentice optician training. Before such plan is approved, the optician supervisor must submit it to the DPH who may, with the advice of the Board, accept it a partial requisite for reinstatement. Mr. Panella will also be required to substantiate seven CECs in the year preceding reinstatement.

B. Schedule Meeting Dates for 2011:

Following are the dates for Board Meetings scheduled for 2011.

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

(Snow Date) Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

All meetings will be scheduled for 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

LEGAL OFFICE BUSINESS

A. Chucky's – Norwich, CT – Petition No. 2010-5438

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH, presented a Consent Order in this matter.

Rivard made a motion, seconded by Conlin, to approve the Cease and Desist Order. The motion passed and Chairperson Conlin signed the order.

B. Seven-Eleven – East Hartford, CT – Petition No. 2010-5439

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH, presented a Consent Order in this matter.

Rivard made a motion, seconded by Conlin, to approve the Cease and Desist Order. The motion passed and Chairperson Conlin signed the order.

C. Sunoco –New Britain, CT – Petition No. 2010-5440

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH, presented a Consent Order in this matter.

Rivard made a motion, seconded by Conlin, to approve the Cease and Desist Order. The motion passed and Chairperson Conlin signed the order.

D. Sunoco Middletown, CT – Petition No. 2010-5441

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH, presented a Consent Order in this matter.

Rivard made a motion, seconded by Conlin, to approve the Cease and Desist Order. The motion passed and Chairperson Conlin signed the order.

E. Way Low Discount - Hartford, CT – Petition No. 2010-5442

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH, presented a Consent Order in this matter.

Rivard made a motion, seconded by Conlin, to approve the Cease and Desist Order. The motion passed and Chairperson Conlin signed the order.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rivard made a motion, seconded by Ms. Conlin to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



René R. Rivard
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians