



Board of Dental Examiners

Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

89 Main Street, 3rd Floor • Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

<https://sos.vermont.gov/opr/>

Approved Meeting Minutes

Remote Meeting

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021 at 9:00a.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M., by Dr. Ruhl

Members Present: Robert Ruhl, William Koch, Elizabeth Merrill, Linda Greaves, Lucille Kelly, Cheryl Ullman and Mimi Kevan.

Members Absent: Randall Miller & David Baasch.

OPR Personnel Present: Gabriel Gilman, General Counsel; Corey Young, Licensing Administrator.

Guests: Diane Dumas, Heather Blair, and Debora Teixeira

2. Approval of Previous Minutes:

Ms. Merrill moved to approve the minutes of August 11th, 2021 with a minor attendance change. Dr. Koch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Discipline: None

4. Other Business:

- a. Mr. Gilman summarized concerns expressed by Board leadership about the application of the 2018 amendment that created 26 V.S.A. § 601(2)(B), providing for licensure of graduates of “a program of foreign dental training and a postgraduate program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association that is acceptable to the Board.” Mr. Gilman clarified that dentists admitted under subsection (2)(B) are required to take all of the exams applicable to other applicants.

Postgraduate programs are to make a finding of educational equivalence at the point of admission, and participants are then exposed to domestic clinical practice. The emerging concern is that several programs may be 100% online or 100% theory, with no stateside of clinical component.

Dr. Ruhl asked the Board to bring thoughts and ideas to the November meeting. The question pending is whether the Board should require some minimum degree of stateside clinical training or observation if a program is to be “acceptable to the Board” for use toward licensure.

- b. Officer Elections:

Chair: Dr. Ruhl

Vice Chair: Dr. Koch

Secretary: Ms. Kelly

Ms. Greaves moved to re-elect the incumbent officers: Dr. Ruhl, Chair; Dr. Koch, Vice-Chair; and Ms. Kelly, Secretary. Dr. Koch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

c. 2022 Meeting Dates:

Dr. Ullman moved that the Board meet every other month starting in January 2022. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

- January 12th
- March 9th
- May 11th
- July 13th
- September 14th
- November 9th

d. Mr. Gilman updated the Board on the status of the proposed administrative dental rules.

e. Ms. Greaves spoke to the board on Vermont Department of Health updates

5. Adjournment:

After inviting public comment, Dr. Ruhl adjourned the meeting at 9:47am.

Next Scheduled Meeting – Wednesday, November 8th, 2021

Please check the [OPR Meeting Calendar](#) for updates