



Board of Allied Mental Health Practitioners
Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

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UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
VERMONT BOARD OF ALLIED MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS
MAY 16, 2019 MEETING

Present: Tammy Austin, Lynn Irwin, Carol Smith, Scott Giles and Shawn Waldron; Office of Professional Regulation Personnel: Diane Lafaille and Lauren Layman. Others Present: Heather Pearce

1. General Business

- a. The Board called the meeting to order at 8:23 a.m.
- b. Mr. Irwin moved, seconded by Mr. Waldron, to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2019 meeting as written. Approved.

2. Public Comment

Heather Pearce attended the Board meeting and had comments regarding the statutes and rules and changes she would like to see incorporated into the draft rules.

3. Applications

Wohl, Nancy – Additional information is needed.

Gries, Anna – Endorsement from Colorado. Standards in Colorado are not substantially equal to those of Vermont.

4. Correspondence

- a. India Stein submitted an email asking the Board if the client needs to have a mental health diagnosis to count towards her hours and what qualifies as substance abuse counseling versus mental health counseling? The Board responds that as long as what she is providing is psychotherapy, her hours will count towards her post degree supervised hours. It is perfectly acceptable for her to provide psychotherapy that is

focused on substance use/abuse. The Board encourages her to read the Administrative Rules 1.2 and the definition of psychotherapy in Statutes 4084 (4) as these may be helpful for her to review. The Board notes that there are functions of Substance Abuse Treatment that do not count towards mental health post degree supervised practice hours, i.e. Case Management, and MAT medication distribution. However, if she reads and sticks to the definition of psychotherapy, she will be all set.

- b. Madeline Hope emailed the Board stating that her New York supervisors were not required to be licensed for 3 years before the supervision began and asked if there was any flexibility on this requirement. Mr. Irwin moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to deny her request to amend the rules. Approved.
 - c. Claire Diamond emailed the Board requesting a waiver of her internship. Mr. Giles moved, seconded by Mr. Irwin, to deny her request for a waiver of the rules for the internship hours. Approved.
 - d. Ellen Moore emailed the Board with questions surrounding what “financially gain” means in the rules. She states that she works in a private practice. The Board responded that based on the current rules if she, as the billing supervisor, is taking a portion of the fees for reimbursement for services provided, she is financially gaining from their work. The supervisee can absolutely have a different supervisor. Paying for supervision is paying for a service and not seen as a financial gain for the practice. The Board does want her to know that they understand the complexity and confusion that this rule contains and the Board will be addressing this in its next rule change.
 - e. Ashley Fox, at the Board’s October 2018 meeting, was notified that she needed to take the one exam she has not taken. She provided the Board with those results. Licensure was approved.
5. Other Business
- a. Rule reform goals, with particular attention to supervisory arrangements and non-conforming degrees. The Board will review its current administrative rules and will notify the Office of any changes they would like to see made. The Office will draft a revision for the Board to review.
 - b. Legislative Survey – Attorney Layman briefly updated the Board.
 - c. Northern Vermont University Memorandum of Understanding was approved.

- d. Ms. Austin asked if anyone would be interested in attending the NBCC/AASCB Conference in August.
- e. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2019.
- f. The Board adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Lafaille, Licensing Administrator I