

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
POLYSOMNOGRAPHY PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Monday, December 19, 2016, 12:30 p.m.
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore Maryland 21215, 4th Floor Conference Room 1

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Katherine Buki, M.D., Chair, Susheel Patil, M.D., Norman Schubert, RPGST, Angela Dawson, RPSGT, Brenda McKinley, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT: Felicia Wright, Allied Health Supervisor, Stacy Darin, Esq., Staff Counsel, Sandi Van Horn, Health Policy Analyst, Linda Monroe, Allied Health Analyst, Cecilia Laurent, Allied Health Analyst

ABSENT: Ellen Douglas Smith, Deputy Director, Theresa Banks, RRT, RPSGT, Helen Emsellem, M.D.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Buki called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Dr. Patil and seconded by Mr. Schubert, the Committee approved the August 25, 2016 Open Meeting Minutes.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Van Horn informed the Committee that at its November 30, 2016 meeting, the Board voted to approve the proposed regulations to accept the Sleep Disorders Specialty (SDS) examination and to recognize the CRT-SDS and RRT-SDS credentials, which will assist certain applicants seeking licensure as a polysomnographic technologist in Maryland. A notice for respiratory therapists is posted on the polysomnographic technologist “hot topics” page on the Board’s Website. The polysomnographic technologist application for licensure is being updated.

Ms. Van Horn also noted that the proposal to change continuing education regulations is moving toward final action and that the changes are expected to go into effect in January.

She also informed the committee that the Board’s next newsletter will be posted on the Board’s Website this month.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Statutory Interpretation of 14-5C-09(c)

Ms. Darin informed the Committee that the differences in the American Academy of Sleep Medicine's (AASM) A-STEP educational program and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) is that the clinical requirement is built into the CAAHEP program whereas the clinical requirement is separate in the AASM's A-STEP program. Ms. Darin also noted that the CAAHEP program is seen as a more comprehensive curriculum than the A-STEP program, which has a more limited scope. Ms. Darin advised that, for purposes of evaluating applications, the relevant consideration is the accreditation of the program and not whether the program is called a polysomnographic educational program or a sleep technologist educational program

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CV's for Vacant Committee Positions

The Committee reviewed the CVs submitted for the vacant positions. Dr. Buki addressed the topic of a "specialist", and stated that one may not call themselves a "specialist" unless they have had training or practiced in that specialty. She also recommended that in the future there be a pulmonary sleep specialist, neurology sleep specialist and a third board-certified sleep specialist on the Committee that may have a specialty other than psychiatry or internal medicine. After discussion, the Committee voted to hold brief interviews with the qualified candidates.

Letter to Sleep Labs – Update

Ms. Monroe informed the Committee that approximately 55 of the 163 letters that were sent to sleep laboratories in Maryland had been returned as "undeliverable".

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Linda Monroe

Allied Health Analyst