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Minutes of the Occupational Therapy Practice Board

July 14, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Auburn Downtown, 507 C St SW, Auburn, WA 98001

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members present: Mary Spores, Occupational Therapist, Chairperson; Ryan Wilson, Occupational Therapist; Shari Roberts, General Public, Vice-chairperson; Joaquin Olivas, Occupational Therapy Assistant

Members absent: Walter Gruenwald, Occupational Therapist

Staff present: Kathy Weed, Program Manager; Madissen Schatz, Administrative Assistant; Noelle Chung, Assistant Attorney General; Lydia Koroma, Supervising Staff Attorney; Shelly Bates, Staff Attorney

Guests and other participants: Shaun Conway, Senior Director, External and Regulatory Affairs at National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc.; Barbara Williams, Associate Director, External and Regulatory Affairs, National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy; Tammeka Williams, National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy; M. Terry Bowman, OTR/L

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mary Spores, chairperson, called the public meeting to order at 9 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

1.1. INTRODUCTIONS – BOARD MEMBERS, STAFF, AND AUDIENCE

1.2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve July 14, 2023, agenda.

Motion/Second: Vice-chairperson Roberts/Member Olivas. Approved unanimously.

1.3. APPROVAL APRIL 14, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the April 14, 2023, minutes.

Motion/Second: Vice-chairperson Roberts/Member Olivas. Approved unanimously.

1.4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

None

2. RULES HEARING

Mary Spores, chairperson, called the public hearing to order at 9:10 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

Public testimony- none.

Mary Spores, chairperson, adjourned the public hearing at 9:14 a.m.

The Board considered the adoption of proposed rules for sections WAC 246-847-065, filed as WSR #23-02-040 on December 29, 2022.

Motion: The Board adopts to the proposed revisions to WAC 246-827-065, as published in WSR 23-02-040, with any revisions described and agreed upon by the Board at today's meeting.

Motion/Second: Vice-chairperson Roberts/Member Wilson. Approved unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION FROM NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Shaun Conway and Barbara Williams, National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

The Board received a presentation from the NBCOT on their certification programs and services.

The Board took a break at 10:33 a.m. and reconvened at 10:43 a.m.

4. REVIEW OF ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SENATE BILL 5228

Kathy Weed, Board Program Manager

The Board discussed an announcement regarding Senate Bill 5228, an act relating to providing occupational therapy services for persons with behavioral health disorders. The Board approved the statement and agreed to post it on the webpage.

5. REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Noelle Chung, Office of the Attorney General

The Board received a presentation on the Open Public Meetings Act and confidentiality statement.

6. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT

Kathy Weed, Board Program Manager

6.1. AOTA INSPIRE CONFERENCE UPDATES

Chairperson Spores

The Board received a report on the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Inspire 2023 Conference in Kansas City, Missouri from April 20-23, 2023.

During the Representative Assembly April 2023 Meeting, six motions and three requests for actions from members were discussed and voted on. The outcomes were as follows:

Motions:

Motion 1: Position Statement on Critical Care and Occupational Therapy Across the Lifespan was approved.

Motion 2: Professional Policy on Interventions to Support Occupations was approved.

Motion 3: Recommendations on Entry-Level Competencies Impact on Education Costs and Faculty was approved.

Motion 4: Establish a Work Group on Sustainability and Climate Change in Occupational Therapy Education was approved.

Motion 5: Develop a Societal Statement on Sustainability and Climate Change was approved.

Motion 6: Design a Strategic Implementation Plan for Sustainability Recommendations was approved.

Requests for Action:

Member Request for Action 1: Community Mental Health Resource Document was defeated.

Member Request for Action 2: Policy on Appropriate Use of Credentials was defeated.

Member Request for Action 3: Guidance on School Choice Legislation was defeated.

Chairperson Spores discussed the keynote address by John O’Leary, author, and the Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lecture by Mary Lowler, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA.

6.2. BUSINESS PLAN

Kathy Weed, Board Program Manager

The Board reviewed the Department of Health, Washington State Occupational Therapy Practice Board, Business Plan 2023-2025.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board discussed agenda items for future meetings.

Credentialing statistics.

Budget.

Disciplinary activities.

Healthcare Enforcement and Licensing Management Systems (HELMS)

Report from Joaquin regarding the credentialing policies and procedures for the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, and the occupational therapy licensure compact.

Determine schedule of regular meetings for the year 2024.

Designate a volunteer for the legislative update calls.

Code of ethics and standards of professional conduct.

Health Equity Continuing Education.

8. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Teresa Bowman, Western State Hospital

Ms. Bowman raised concerns about the licensing process. She had applied for an occupational therapist endorsement in Washington after holding an active license in California. Her application took around 4.5 months to be processed. She described her experience of receiving an endorsement in the United Kingdom, which was processed faster than Washington.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mary Spores, chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE BOARD

Mary Spores, Chairperson

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