



Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Health
BOARD of AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

**899 NORTH CAPITOL ST. NE – 2NDFLOOR.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION
MEETING MINUTES**

DRAFT



Government of the District of Columbia
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OPEN SESSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2016

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	GABRIELE S. NICOLET, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	STEPHANIE MARSHALL, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	KRISTIN SPIVEY, BOARD MEMBER	Absent
	KARI COMER, BOARD MEMBER	Present
STAFF:	ROBIN Y. JENKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Absent
	ERIC YEAGER, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	LEONARD HOWARD, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	PANRAVEE VONGJAROENRAT, ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL	Present

The Agenda begins on the next page.



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OPEN SESSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2016

OPEN SESSION: Call to Order

	<p><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> There was no report.</p>	
	<p><u>Chairperson's Report:</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> The Board Chair opened by noting that on September 14, 2016 she led an ethics course, entitled "Ethics: What's New?," that was held at the Old City Council Chambers as part of the Newborn Hearing Screening Symposium conducted by DOH's Community Health Association (CHA). She said that the meeting was well attended and that a number of licensees expressed an interest for more continuing education in other areas of learning. The Board Chair thanked Member Stephanie Marshall and Licensing Specialist Eric Yeager for arriving at the symposium during the morning session to discuss the regulatory changes that will limit who may conduct newborn hearing screenings. At the symposium, Board Member Marshall and Mr. Yeager informed the group that this testing will at some future point be done by audiology assistants, and that hospital technicians and hospital volunteers will no longer be able to conduct these tests unless first becoming registered as audiology assistants.</p> <p>Board Member Marshall then told the Board that some</p>	



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symposium attendees expressed concerns about how the regulatory change will impact hospital workers who currently perform hearing screenings. However, the Board Attorney clarified that one may qualify as an audiology assistant with an associate's degree in a program focusing on audiology or the hearing sciences, or a program determined by the Board to be substantially equivalent. She said that this level of training is not overly burdensome and that since the regulations have not yet been published, those who do not currently qualify for this registration have sufficient time to become adequately educated and trained. Once these Board regulations are published, they will control because the Board has authority over who practices in this field, the Board Attorney explained.

Continuing, Board Member Stephanie Marshall noted that many licensees at the symposium asked about the availability of more continuing education classes, and that one licensee asked about continuing education that addresses treating gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) clients. The Board Chair referenced the D.C. City Council's recent passage of the requirement that all licensed health professionals complete two (2) CEUs every renewal cycle, and that this licensee's desire for LGBTQ education is timely given that this requirement must be met in upcoming renewals.



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	<p><u>Board Attorney's Report:</u> The Board Attorney announced that the City Council has proposed new legislation which would require a health professional's employer, health care provider, facility or agency to submit a written report, within five (5) days, of any action taken against a health professional for incompetence, mental or physical impairment, unprofessional, illegal or unethical conduct. If the reporting requirement is not met, the Mayor may impose a fine of up to \$10,000 per incident. This legislation is entitled the "Health-Care and Community Residence Facility Licensure Act of 1983 Amendment of 2016. The Board Members agreed with the Board Attorney's point that this legislation is broad in scope and raises many reporting and liability issues for an array of entities and stakeholders. Noting that this legislation affects all health professionals and all licensing boards, they agreed that it needs to be monitored closely.</p>	
OS-0919-01	<p><u>MINUTES</u> <u>Board Action:</u> The Open Session Minutes of the June 6, 2106 meeting were approved.</p>	
OS-0919-02	<p><u>CLINICAL FELLOWS, AUDIOLOGY ASSISTANTS, AND SLP ASSISTANTS UPDATE</u> <u>Board Actions:</u> The Board Attorney reported that the regulations were sent to the Mayor's office for review.</p>	

The OPEN SESSION concluded at 10:10 a.m.