

**GEORGIA COMPOSITE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,
SOCIAL WORKERS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**
Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2016

The Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists met Friday, October 14, 2016 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Livingston, MFT, Chair
Kathryn Klock-Powell, MFT, Vice-Chair
Gerri Ann Robbins, MFT
Ben Marion, CSW/MFT
Endsley Real, CSW
Tommy Black, LPC
Jack Perryman, LPC

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Karen Warren-Rosas, MSW
Bonnie Barker, LPC

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1
Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC-1
Amanda Allen, Licensing Supervisor
Hope Harrison, Licensing Analyst

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

Betsy Cohen, Esq., AAG

VISITORS PRESENT:

Karen Starks, LCSW, President-elect for the NASW Georgia Chapter
Gale Macke, LPCA Executive Director
Lisa Morris, Metropolitan Counseling
Diane Hall Smith, GAMFT
Eric Groh, PEER
Wendy Martinez Farmer, BHL/GCAC
Sherri Rawsthorn, GA Society for Clinical SW
Kristin Smith, GA Society for Clinical SW
Michelle Frey, Clinical Supervisor for Nazila Aghazadeh
Nazila Aghazadeh, Applicant for LPC

Steve Livingston, Chair, established a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Agenda: Approved with additional late items:

- Butt, S. - Release of Application File Contents
- Board Rules Discussion – Proposed Amendments to 135-3-.01, 135-9-.01 & .02; Proposed New Rule - SB319/Act 377

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2-(k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19 (h) (2) & (4) to receive and review information pertaining to Applications, conduct applicant and investigative interviews, receive reports from the Boards Assistant Attorney General, the Professional Practices (Complaints) and the Professional Standards (Applications) Committees. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members: Livingston, Klock-Powell, Marion, Real, Robbins, Black and Perryman.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, October 14, 2016, Mr. Livingston declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq.

Applications:

The separate Professional Standards Committees reviewed and made recommendations on all applications presented by the administrative staff.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Clinical and Master Social Worker applications as presented. In addition, the Board voted that the licenses can be issued upon the receipt of a passing exam score report. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Klock Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Associate and Professional Counselor applications as presented. In addition, the Board voted that the licenses can be issued upon the receipt of a passing exam score report. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Associate and Marriage and Family Therapy applications as presented. In addition, the Board voted that the licenses can be issued upon the receipt of a passing exam score report. None opposed, motion carried.

PSC Committee: Applicant Interviews:

- T.I.
- Y.J.
- S.M.
- D.G.
- D.B.
- L.D.
- M.L.

Recommendation

Pending receipt of additional information
No Show
Denial Stands
Denial Stands
Requested to Reschedule Interview
Approve for licensure
Approve to sit for exam

Renewal Issues:

- K.D.
- A.I.
- T.J.
- S.K.
- D.M.
- C.W.
- J.B.

Recommendation:

Approve Renewal
Approve Renewal

Approve Renewal
Pending Receipt Additional Information
Approve Renewal
Pending receipt of CE's

Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations regarding the renewal issues as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Professional Practices Committee/Complaints:

Recommend Closure:

COMP160101, COMP170015, COMP170040 and COMP170051

Rescind Prior Referrals:

COMP140065
COMP150077
COMP170047

Recommended New Action:

Subpoena Records
Informal Monitoring
Schedule for Sub-Committee Interview

Schedule Investigative Interview:

COMP160130 & 170041
COMP170003

November 4, 2016 Meeting
(Rescheduled to November 4, 2016 Meeting)

Refer to Investigations:

COMP170001

Recommendation:

Obtain Records

Refer to AG's Office:

COMP160044

Recommendation:

Cease & Desist Order

Pending:

COMP170013
COMP170031
COMP170036
COMP170048

Recommendation:

Subpoena Records
Subpoena Records
Subpoena Records
Subpoena Records

Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Professional Practices Committee report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Assistant Attorney General's Report:

Written status and activity report presented for Board review.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Assistant Attorney General's report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session Minutes:

- September 9, 2016
- October 6, 2016 LPC PSC Committee Meeting

Mr. Black, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the September 9, 2016 Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Klock-Powell, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to approve the October 6, 2016 Executive Session LPC PSC Committee Meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Appearances – Applications Denied:

- Charmion Taylor
- Nazila Aghazadeh

Recommendation:

Rescind the denial of prior application; Pending receipt of additional 32.75 hours of supervision

Rescind the denial of prior application; Pending receipt of updated Contract Affidavit by October 31, 2016.

Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Black seconded, and the Board voted to rescind the Board's previous denial of the application of C. Taylor. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Marion seconded, and the Board voted to rescind the Board's previous denial of the application of N. Aghazadeh. None opposed, motion carried.

Minutes:

- September 9, 2016
- September 22, 2016 Conference Call
- October 6, 2016 LPC Committee Meeting

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the September 9, 2016 board meeting minutes as amended. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Real motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the September 22, 2016 Conference Call meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Peterman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the October 06, 2016 LPC Committee meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- GA LPCA – Supervisors Open Book Laws & Rules Exam
- BHL, Wendy Farmer RE Contract Affidavits
- Connell, B. (APC004795) RE: An Emotional Support Animal
- GA NASW Request to meet with Social Work Standards Committee
- Gallimore, M. – RE Telemental Health Practice in GA
- Whitner, Kimberly (APC Applicant) – DE Question
- Deena Terrell (MSW005634) Application File Request
- James Griffin (LPC008391) Application File Request
- Laura Johnson (LPC009069) Request copy of Exam Scores
- Joseph Illovsy (CSW002656) Application File Request
- Vanessa Mahmoud (CSW000960) Social Work Examination
- Pamela Manley (APC005172) APC Licensure Question
- Rebecca Kaufman (LPC006444) Request copy of Exam Scores
- Sharon Harp (CSW004593) Application File Request
- Sohail Butt (LPC Pending) Application File and Other Board Information Request

Mr. Black motioned, Mr. Peterman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the release of the file contents and/or exam score for D. Terrell, J. Griffin, L. Johnson, J. Illovsy, R. Kaufman and S. Harp as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Board Staff to respond as directed to all other correspondences listed above. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Black motioned, Ms. Robbins seconded, and the Board voted to approve the request to release the file contents and/or other Board information as requested of S. Butt as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Petitions for Waiver/Variance:

Recommendation:

- A. Towns Denied
- T. Weatherly Denied
- K. Willard Granted
- C. William Denied
- J. Geerdes Granted
- L. Herbert Denied
- C. McVey Granted
- B. Haynes Granted

Mr. Marion motioned, Ms. Klock-Powell seconded, and the Board voted to grant the petition request of K. Willard, J. Geerdes, C. McVey, and B. Haynes. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Black motioned, Mr. Peterman seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition requests for A. Towns, T. Weatherly, C. William, and L. Herbert for failure to substantiate a verifiable and demonstrable hardship as required by law. None opposed, motion carried.

Rules Discussion:

Discussion regarding proposed amendments to Board rules 135-3-.01, 135-9-.01 and 135-9-.02 were tabled to a later meeting. Following discussion with the Board’s legal representative in closed session, the Board discussed their proposed new rule regarding SB319/Act 377, making a few final adjustments. Following discussion, the Board voted to refer the rule draft to the AG’s office.

Ms. Klock-Powell motioned, Mr. Black seconded and the Board voted to refer the proposed new rule (yet to be titled) to the AG’s office for a Memo of Statutory Authority, and upon receipt of said authority, to post the proposed rule draft for the minimum thirty days for public view with a public rules hearing to be scheduled as soon thereafter as possible. None opposed, motion carried.

Application Ratify List:

The application ratify list for today’s meeting was not ready; tabled; to be added to next month’s meetings listing.

Associations – Board Update

Association updates were provided by Ms. Gale Macke, Executive Director, LPCA, and Dr. Karen Stark, President-Elect, ASWB, GA Chapter.

With no additional Board business requiring discussion, Ms. Robbins motioned, Ms. Real seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn today’s meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC1
 Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1

Steve Livingston
 Chair

Brig Zimmerman
 Executive Director HC1

These minutes were approved on: **November 4, 2016**