

Georgia Board of Massage Therapy
Legislative Subcommittee Meeting
Teleconference Minutes
Wednesday, December 7, 2016
2:00 - 4:00 PM EST

Call to Order

Craig Knowles called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM EST and identified each member as present. He reported that he would be attending the meeting for one hour today due to unforeseen circumstances. He requested that LeFave serve as Chair and continue the meeting until 4:00 PM. There were no objections from the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee Members Present

Craig Knowles	Georgia Board of Massage Therapy
Jane Johnson	American Massage Therapy Association Georgia Chapter (AMTA-GA)
Judy LeFave	American Massage Therapy Association Georgia Chapter (AMTA-GA)
Laura Delanoy	Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals (ABMP)
Laura Embleton	Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals (ABMP)
Libby Eason	The International Association of Structural Integrators (IASI)
Deborah Nimmons	The International Association of Structural Integrators (IASI)

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price	Executive Director, Georgia Board of Massage Therapy
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Agenda

Knowles reviewed the agenda with the members present and asked if there were any additions or deletions. There being none, Knowles indicated that he will proceed with the agenda as established. LeFave made a motion to adopt the agenda and Embleton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Members reviewed the 11-18-2016 Legislative Subcommittee Meeting Minutes. Embleton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and LeFave seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Updates

Knowles reported on Board Updates to the Legislative Subcommittee Terms and Conditions of Participation.

1. The Board voted not to expand the Subcommittee. Any written correspondence has to go to the Board first in compliance with Open Records Act, and then released to the Subcommittee. Correspondence must be submitted 3 days before scheduled meeting, if not, it will be reviewed and discussed at the next scheduled meeting.

2. The proposed amendments draft may be shared with the Stakeholder organizations:
- a) Feldenkrais Guild of North America (FGNA),
 - b) American Organization for Bodywork Therapies of Asia (AOBTA),
 - c) American Polarity Therapy Association (APTA),
 - d) International Somatic Movement Education Therapy Association (ISMETA),
 - e) United States Trager Association (USTA),
 - f) Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy Association of North America (BCTA/NA).

Identifying Subcommittee Contacts for Identified Stakeholders

Subcommittee discussed designated Contacts for the Identified Stakeholders. Johnson made a motion to approve Eason as subcommittee member contact to Feldenkrais Guild of North American (FGNA), American Organization for Bodywork Therapies of Asia (AOBTA), American Polarity Therapy Association (APTA) and Nimmons as subcommittee member contact to International Somatic Movement Education and Therapy Association (ISMETA), United States Trager Association (USTA), Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy Association of North America (BCTA/NA). Motion was seconded by LeFave and passed unanimously.

Stakeholder Representatives may communicate directly with assigned Subcommittee Contact in an effort to expedite collaboration in drafting the language for the proposed amendments draft. By approving a Subcommittee Contact, the aforementioned Stakeholders may communicate directly with their assigned contact in lieu of providing written information to the Board that must be addressed by the Board at their next Board meeting before the information is forwarded to the subcommittee. Providing this avenue of direct communication will expedite the work of the Subcommittee and provide input from the Stakeholders.

In review of the additional correspondence from APTA, Knowles explained that the correspondence dated November 25, 2016 was just information from the APTA explaining the differences in massage and polarity and why they feel that they should continue to be exempt and the Board and Subcommittee will keep these things in mind as we move forward with the draft. The other correspondence that was submitted should first be presented to the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy, then they will vote to submit it to the Legislative Subcommittee. The additional correspondence from APTA as well as the other Stakeholders that Price distributed to the Subcommittee on Thursday and today will be discussed at the next meeting, so please review them.

“Bodywork” and “Bodyworker” definitions were prepared by Eason and Nimmons.

Nimmons provided a verbal presentation of several definitions of “bodywork” for discussion and feedback. A copy of the definitions will be sent to Price to disseminate to the Subcommittee for further review, discussion, and comments at the next meeting.

It was the consensus of the subcommittee that the next teleconference meeting be held on Friday, December 16, 2016 at 3:00-5:00 PM EST.

3:00 PM EST President Knowles departs the meeting and LeFave resumes the meeting.

Review of Draft

It was determined that due to technical problems experienced with Google Drive, that the version of the amendment that Johnson provided to Price for dissemination may not have been accurate and as a result, Johnson granted the Subcommittee members access to view the document real time on Google Drive. Johnson explained that they would not have the ability to make amendments in Google Drive so as to ensure that document remains the master draft of their work. Knowles instructed the Subcommittee members to feel free to make edits on their own drafts as we go along.

The Subcommittee members reviewed, discussed and edited the current consolidated draft of proposed amendments to the Massage Therapy Practice Act starting at line # 71 and stopping at line # 182.

Member Assignments

1. Johnson is assigned to expedite preparing and releasing the minutes to the subcommittee and continue to resolve the viewing issue with Google Drive.
2. Nimmons is assigned to provide a copy of the various 'bodywork' definitions to Price to disseminate to the Subcommittee.
3. Review APTA and ISMTA correspondences (emailed on Dec. 6) for discussion next meeting and be prepared to discuss any documents emailed 3 days prior to our next meeting.
4. Price is assigned to:
 - a) Sending out a Doodle Poll to members to determine future meeting dates after December 16th;
 - b) Disseminating a copy of the "bodywork" definitions to the Subcommittee;
 - c) Providing the Healthcare State Law statute code for wearing photo ID's; and,
 - d) Reviewing other statutes and presenting the Subcommittee with some draft language to consider placing within lines #163-169 to accommodate the transitional period into licensure.
5. Revisit line #79 and lines #163-169

Nimmons posed questions regarding the administrative process of those dual trained in Massage Therapy and in Bodywork, i.e. possible duplicate background checks, and if those who are dual trained would obtain one or two licenses. It was determined that more specific language will need to be drafted for line # 162-169 to address this question as well as the transitioning phase as the definition of bodywork is more clearly defined.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM EST

Minutes recorded by Johnson and adopted by the Subcommittee on 12/16/2016.

Adopted by the Board on 01/13/2017.