

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS
Committee Teleconference Minutes
Friday, July 10, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met via teleconference on Friday, July 10, 2020. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Leonard La Russa, DPM, Chair
Dr. Joseph Giovinco, DPM, Vice Chair
Ms. Judy Sanders, Consumer Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor

Board Members Not Present

Dr. Sarvepalli Jokhai, DPM

Office of Attorney General

Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General
Mary Brannen, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

Sam Artika, Nelson Mullins
Marit Sivertson, J.D., Executive Director, Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA)

Call to Order Due to the untimely discontinuation of the previous virtual meeting platform, the Board was unable to state with any certainty that all interested parties received adequate notice regarding the change in methods required to join the meeting. Out of an abundance of caution and in deference to the provisions of the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq, the Board determined that they will proceed with the agenda as a Committee of the Board and reconvene at a later date to when proper notice can be achieved. Dr. La Russa called the Committee meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Committee recommended to accept the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes

1. April 24, 2020 Board Teleconference Minutes

Ms. Sanders motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Committee recommended to approve the April 24, 2020 open session teleconference minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify April 17, 2020 – July 3, 2020

Ms. Sanders motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Committee recommended to ratify the licenses by application and by reinstatement that were issued in accordance with Board Rules and Policies between Board meetings.

Correspondence – U.S. Department of Education Guidance Document Update 05152020

The Committee recommended to accept the correspondence provided regarding USDOE as information.

Correspondence – Notice of Fee Increase for Criminal Background Checks – Marina Fox, Non-Criminal Justice (NCJ) Customer Support & Compliance Supervisor

The Committee recommended to accept the correspondence provided regarding NCJ as information.

Discussion – Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards (FPMB)

- 1. Continuing Education Received Through Non-Live Online or Electronic Methods – 2020-06-18**
- 2. 2020 Q2 Newsletter**

The Committee recommended to accept the correspondence regarding FPMB as information.

Discussion – Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA) – Request for Rule Amendment – Marit Sivertson, J.D., Executive Director

The Committee recommended to accept the correspondence in reference to GPMA as information.

Rules Committee – J. Giovinco, DPM

1. Board Rule 500-5-.01. Continuing Education Hours. Amended.

The Committee discussed BR 500-5-.01 and recommended to refer the rule to the Rules Committee to draft amendments and submit them for full Board review during the July 31, 2020 meeting.

2. Emergency Rule on CME

The Committee recommended to table the discussion to monitor the status of the public health state of emergency related to COVID-19 and allow the Rules Committee sufficient time to draft an emergency rule for the full Board to review during the October 30, 2020 meeting.

2. Board Rule 500-2-.02 Reinstatement

The Committee discussed the need to clarify BR 500-2-.02(2)(3) to reflect the type of CE a reinstatement applicant is required to complete. It was recommended to refer the rule to the Rules Committee to draft amendments and submit them for full Board review during the July 31, 2020 meeting.

Discussion – HB 932 - GA Podiatry Practice Act

The Committee recommended to accept the correspondence in reference to HB 932 as information.

Executive Director’s Report – A. Price

Executive Director’s Report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, and complaints/compliance matters and. In addition, she addressed the following topics with the Board:

- **Upcoming Session of the Georgia General Assembly**
- **Potential Changes Due to Budget Cuts**

The Committee recommended to accept the Executive Director’s Report as presented.

Board President’s Report – L. La Russa, DPM

No report presented.

Marit Sivertson addressed the Committee regarding CME and HB932. She was asked by the Board to send the language for GPMA’s CPME requirements for interactive webinars to Ms. Price for the purpose of providing the Rules Committee some sample language to review when amending the CE rule and developing an emergency rule.

Ms. Sanders motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded, and the Committee voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2 (k); 43-1-19 (h) and 50-14-2 (1) to receive and review information pertaining to applications, pending cases, investigative reports and enforcement matters and to receive the Assistant Attorney General’s report. Voting in favor of the motion were those Committee members present: Dr. La Russa, Dr. Giovinco and Ms. Sanders.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Friday, July 10, 2020, Dr. La Russa declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

OPEN SESSION

Executive Minutes

1. April 24, 2020 Executive Session Teleconference Minutes

Ms. Sanders motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Committee recommended to approve the April 24, 2020 executive session teleconference minutes as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – B. Cohen

Ms. Cohen introduced Ms. Brannen who is taking over as General Counsel for the Board. Ms. Brannen expressed that she looked forward to being a part of the Board and bringing her years of experience with other medical Boards with her.

The Committee recommended to accept the Attorney General’s Report as presented.

Discussion – Board Rule 500-4-.02. Inactive Status. Amended.

The Committee recommended to refer Board Rule 500-4-.02. Inactive Status. Amended. back to the Attorney General’s Office for a Memorandum of Authority and if no objections, vote to post.

Cognizant Report – J. Giovinco, DPM

The Committee recommended to accept the Cognizant Report as presented.

POD200002 Table pending Cognizant review.

POD200007 Close the case with no action.

POD200005 Close the case with no action.

POD200004 Table pending additional information.

POD200009 Table pending additional information.

POD200010 Table pending additional information.

POD190028 Table pending additional information.

Applications for Board Review

The Committee recommended to accept the following recommendation made in Executive Session:

Applicant 2866302 Issue the license and flag for CE audit.

The Committee recommended to meet July 31, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting on matters discussed today.

Adjournment With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: July 31, 2020

LEONARD LA RUSSA
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR