

MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2009

Attendance: Flay Lee, Bert Bennett, Mark Crabtree, Dottie Saxon Greene, Tom Miller, Lynn Jones, Lynn Inman, Lidia Bly-Herman, Jessica Holton, Joseph Adedokun, Tony Beatty, Joe Fortin, Nora Noel, Wrenn Rivenbark, Joseph Adedokun, Randy Thornton, David Turpin, Clyde Ebron.

Board Staff: Ann Christian, Barden Culbreth, Anna Misenheimer.

Danny Graves called the meeting to order and stated that Mr. Jim Edmunsden, Executive Director of the NC Foundation for Alcohol and Drug Studies, is the guest speaker today. Danny gave David Turpin the floor to introduce Mr. Edmunsden.

David Turpin explained that the NC Foundation for Alcohol and Drug Studies and the NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board are the two groups that emerged in response to the desire of substance abuse counselors to have an annual conference. Turpin explained how the NC Summer School came to fruition and stated that the Foundation has been a real friend to the NCSAPPB. The Board and the Foundation have worked together for the past 30 years.

Jim Edmunsden stated that the very first summer school was held in 1978. Jim was a faculty member of the UNC-W at that time with a background in adult education and administration. 85 counselors attended the first NC Summer School. Counselors would enter Galloway Hall and specify what track/course they would like to attend. This information was kept on a portable wipe-board at the registration table. Just over thirty years later, one can register for the school online.

Geographic representation, various fields of study and feedback from Foundation Board Members after speaking with counselors within their region help determine the topics of tracks and mini-tracks offered at the School. Suggestions from attendees are also considered during this process.

Jim explained that the Foundation has to be run as a business. The Foundation attempts to pick the topics that will draw the most attention and participants. The quality of trainers is of the utmost importance to the Foundation. Students' reviews of presenters are used by the Foundation to determine which trainers to invite to subsequent schools. The enrollment table should expand from year to year. During the 31 years since the beginning of the NC Summer School, 16,641 counselors have registered and attended the school. Jim said that the Foundation is very interested in the future of the field and asked for the Board's help in recognizing any upcoming needs and trainings that should be

offered at the school. An instance of this scenario would be the inclusion of the Disaster Task Force training this year.

Jim plans to continue in his role as Executive Director for the next three to four years. As Jim prepares for retirement, he will be writing a historical piece on the NC Summer School to include an outline of the Foundation Board members, etc.

Flay Lee asked Jim if it was still advantageous for the Board to continue to hold its annual meeting in conjunction with the Summer School. He stated that the Board meeting in Wilmington provides students the opportunity to meet Board member and network.

Danny asked Ann to read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest statement. No Board member indicated any conflicts.

President's Report

Danny reiterated his desire for Board members to participate in a strategic planning meeting in early 2010. He reported that he, Tom Miller, Dottie Saxon Greene, Jessica Holton and Joe Fortin participated in the Board's mini-track yesterday. Danny received questions from participants in the cafeteria prior to the training.

Executive Committee Report

Flay thanked the Committee chairs and members for their work throughout this past year and he thanked Anna and the Board office for their funneling of Board business to the appropriate committees. The Committee plans to establish a conference call schedule for the remainder of 2009. Beginning with the September Board meeting, one Committee chair per Board meeting will discuss specifically what he/she does within their committee. The Executive Committee and the Ethics Committee will have their individual reports at the September meeting.

Flay then recommended that the Treasurer's Report follow the Executive Director's report. He also stated that an annual report of what has occurred in each committee from Committee chairs should be presented today to the full Board. He supports the planning of a strategic meeting to occur in January. Flay would ideally like to hold such a session every 2-3 years. He stated that he attended a strategic planning session within the past year and there was a facilitator/moderator present that really helped facilitate the conversation and process. He asked Board members to let Anna or Danny know if they have an individual in mind that could serve in this capacity. Flay suggested that the strategic planning session be held independently of a quarterly Board meeting. Whether it's one or two days will depend on the agenda, etc. Last strategic planning session was held years ago when licensure was being considered.

Danny introduced Mr. Tony Beatty as the newest Board member. He is representing the Western region. Mr. Beatty gave the Board a little background on his position as

Program Administration in Charlotte. Flay said that Mr. Beatty is a true leader in the field in the Charlotte region. Mr. Beatty is also an ordained minister and has been in the field for 27 years.

Business and Operations Committee

Tom Miller reported that Jessica Holton is the newest member of this committee. She has been very helpful in keeping the committee on task while recording their meeting minutes. Wrenn Rivenbark has also been an asset and has brought his expertise as a member on other boards to the group. David Turpin brings historical knowledge about the Board to the committee. Tom and his committee will be looking at computer based testing moving forward. The credential verification page on the Board's website was recently updated to reflect some changes as requested by the field. Also, the committee recently asked the Board office to poll the membership about electronic payment option. The membership did reply and strongly opposed this option as it would result in an increase in credentialing fees.

Tom also discussed the request from APNC to be involved in some of the Board's mailing/correspondence efforts. Moving forward, the Committee will look at this and see if this is in accordance with the Board's statutes.

Ethics Committee

Ann Christian reported that the .0500 rules are being submitted to the Rules Review Commission.

Bert told the Board members that he wishes to reduce the time of ethics case resolution. Ethic Committee has been divided into two groups so that if one group is involved in an informal hearing, a quorum is still available should the case need to be heard by the full Board. Bert, Ann and Anna meet about once every other week for an entire day to review these cases and try to move the cases through. Tom suggested that the Board look to other groups (such as IC&RC) to see if standards are already established regarding sanctions for counselor ethical misconduct. Bert stated that he and Ann have occasionally consulted the actions of two particular, occupational groups—attorneys and physicians.

The Board members thanked Bert for his commitment to the Committee and for all the hours he commits to the Committee's work. Bert suggested that a Board Buzz or newsletter include information about the types of complaints that the Committee pursues. In this same vein, Tom suggested that the individual committee reports that will begin occurring at the Board's quarterly meetings be included in the Buzz or newsletter.

Nominations and Elections

As Worth was presenting training during the Board's meeting, Danny reported that more counselors have begun to apply for the Board scholarships. Scholarships are advertised in the Buzz and the newsletter.

Danny mentioned the proposed December Board training. The office continues to looking at facilities to host this event. Locations found thus far are more expensive than the Board hopes to spend, so please let Danny or Anna know if you know of a location where this event can be held. Additionally, we have reconsidered and decided that a one day training for this initial training event might be more appropriate than a one and a half day training as counselors might not be willing/able to spend the night for only a half day event on that Thursday, December 10th.

Treasurer's Report

David Turpin announced that the April, May and June financial reports were distributed by Anna via email. David said that special attention should be paid to the FY 2008-2009 year-end report. The Board has had a great year! A positive thing about computer-based testing is that the Board will not have to pay the test proctors or pay for the testing rooms. These expenses will be incurred by the IC&RC.

Danny stated that, in reviewing other IC&RC member board's websites, we are not only in line with the fees charged for credentialing, but NC actually charges less than other credentialing bodies.

Standards Committee

Ann reported that the .0200 rules have also been submitted to the Rules Review Committee. The public comment period will end on November 2nd.

Motion: The Board members officially directed Ann to file these rules revisions.

Motion made by Lynn Inman/Seconded by Danny Graves.

The motion carried.

Sixty days after the public comment period ends, a conference call will need to be held for the Board to officially adopt the comments/suggestions. A conference call on Wednesday, November 11th at 3pm seems to work for most people. The Board members asked Anna to inform membership of the recommended revisions and advertise the dates of public comment via the *Board Buzz*.

Executive Director's Report

Anna stated that the First Commitment Waiver Study has ended. This study compared Master's level reviewers to psychologists and psychiatrists that are already eligible to conduct First Commitment Evaluations. Anna explained the First Committee Evaluation Study findings with the group. A meeting of the stakeholders group was held yesterday and the findings were discussed. Flo Stein was present at this meeting and she is in support of LCAS's and LCSW's being trained to perform this service. The Division of MH/DD/SAS will submit their recommendation to the DHHS Secretary within the next couple of weeks. As Randolph attended this meeting yesterday, he was unable to attend this meeting.

Danny asked Ann to swear in our new officers for the 2009-2010 year. Flay Lee was officially sworn in for another term as Vice President of the Board and Lidia Bly-Herman was sworn in to serve another term as the Board's Secretary.

Ann then swore Mr. Tony Beatty in as a newly elected Board Member.

Motion: The meeting be adjourned.

Motion made by Lynn Inman/Seconded by Bert Bennett.

The motion passed.