

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MINUTES

June 20, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Elcik, Mary Woodbury, Julie Kadnar and Sherlee Keough

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shelley Rau

OTHERS PRESENT: Diane Staples, Board Clerk; Penny Vaillancourt, Administrator

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Sue Elcik at 9:15 a.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mary Woodbury and seconded by Sherlee Keough to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2003 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

LICENSE APPROVALS

A motion was made by Mary Woodbury and seconded by Julie Kadnar to approve 4 occupational therapists, 1 occupational therapy assistant and 3 temporary occupational therapy assistants since the last meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATORS COMMENTARY

Penny explained to the board that a standard letter will be sent to applicants when a criminal record check reveals a conviction that was not disclosed on an application. The letter will ask them to submit a letter to the Board explaining the discrepancy between the application and the criminal record check.

Penny reported that the FY'04 budget numbers have been allocated for the Occupational Therapy Board; including out-of-state travel which was put in two quarters to reflect the dates of the conferences.

Penny gave an update on the Board's budget.

COMPLAINT OFFICERS REPORT

There are two complaints pending that more information is needed before they can be presented to the Board.

MAINE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ALLIANCE

Lisa Clark made a presentation to the Board regarding continuing education and a formal request that CEUs be granted for education as a clinical practice area. The alliance contends that the students are the clients in this case. The Board does give credit for fieldwork educators, but the types of courses that the alliance is concerned with are on how to be a better teacher. The Board wants to know how you are using this in your practice which is clarified by letter and the Board would like copies so that it can be considered in the next biennium. If there is an explanation submitted that details the clinical relevance, it would help for courses with unclear titles. The alliance believes that a definition of clinical in the Rules would help.

The Board is also submitting answers to questions through MEOTA to be printed in the newsletter.

The Board's mission is to protect the public. The parameters of Occupational Therapy are very broad and much more than clinical treatment such as intervention. The board will look at their Rules and consider the points that were made. There is some leeway in the way the Rules are written for approval of CEUs and the licensee needs to justify the submission if clinical relevance is questionable. Another suggestion is a frequently asked questions section on the webpage.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received a license renewal application from Paul Tardy that revealed a criminal conviction. The Board sent a letter requesting more information regarding the conviction. Mr. Tardy responded but still did not include information regarding the nature of the crime and the circumstances around it. The Board will send another letter requesting the specifics of the crime.

The Board received correspondence from a COTA going into private practice with questions regarding supervisory duties. Sue has responded via e-mail with the supervision standards attached.

MISCELLANEOUS

An applicant has checked yes on the criminal conviction question. The offense was stealing hubcaps. Sherlee Keough moved that we grant the license for Robert Roy Jr. and Mary Woodbury seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

There is a journal club that meets which is coordinated by a therapist at Husson and articles are sent for discussion. In order to be approved for CEUs the articles would need a brief explanation regarding clinical relevance.

CEU REVIEW

The Board reviewed continuing education submissions for the remainder of the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2003 at 9:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane L. Staples, Board Clerk