

## **BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND FITTERS**

*Minutes of April 17, 2001 Board Meeting*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Gilbert Poliquin established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members Present: Sallie Chisholm; Linda Snow, Complaint Officer; Robert Bruder, Public Member; Dawn Dufkin Britt; George M. Davis, Jr., Public Member Gilbert Poliquin, Chairperson; and Wanda Creed

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elaine Thibodeau, Board Administrator; and Jackie Thibodeau, Board Clerk

### **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 27, 2001 MINUTES**

George Davis moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Robert Bruder. Vote: Favor-7 Opposed-0.

### **EXAM REVIEW CONTINUATION**

The exam review will be ongoing with a final result ready for use for the October exams. The existing exam will be used for May.

### **UPDATE ON ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF EXAM PARTICIPANTS FOR MAY**

Currently, there is only one trainee and she has requested to take the exam in May.

### **REVIEW CEU APPROVAL REQUESTS**

CEU requests were reviewed and approved. Letters will be sent accordingly.

### **APPLICATION REVIEW**

Dealer license for Theresa Stockhausen-Gauthier. The Board has some concerns regarding fulfillment of the supervision requirement, because the responsible dealer also has another business and place of employment whose license has not been renewed. In consultation with AAG Dennis Smith, the Board agreed to renew her license, but also to address the expired business license issue.

Business renewal for Audio'D' –Robert Fay has signed as the responsible dealer. He already has been established as the responsible dealer for Southern Maine Hearing Aids. The Board questioned how Robert Fay could be present at both establishments for 75% of dispensing time as required by board rules. This matter will be referred to Dennis Smith for review, as he is not present at the meeting.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Wendy Davis, a speaker from AVR is willing to come to Maine and speak for up to 3 hours at the annual conference about various topics. The Board is still pursuing a speaker from MicroTech.

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Linda Snow provided an update on the status of the HEAR, Inc. issue stating that Dennis Smith has sent a letter to the owner, but a response has not yet been received.

Sallie Chisholm reported on her testimony, delivered at the request of Director Anne Head, in-favor of LD #1718 (“An Act Relating to Licensing Board Fee Caps”) at the April 12<sup>th</sup> Hearing of the Legislative Business & Economic Development Committee.

Gil Poliquin informed the board of a new website called “Audiology Online” that is providing material, a test, scoring, American Academy of Audiology-approved CEUs, and a transcript for a fee beginning at \$19.95 per-credit, although there is a volume discount. He took one of their tests to try it out (Scored 100!), and is in the process of determining whether they are IHS-approved, because the board accepts that certification.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS’ COMMENTARY**

Elaine:

- Provided a legislative update on LD #1484, “Resolve, to Require Medicaid Reimbursement for Hearing Aids and Dental Care for Adults,” and advised them about the hearing and work sessions scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, respectively, before the Health & Human Services Committee.
- Provided a legislative update on LD#1718 “Fee Bill” and advised them that the it had been voted out of committee “ought to pass”
- Distributed and discussed the most recent budget Analysis Reports.
- Distributed the new complaint protocol, previewed the agenda for the June 14<sup>th</sup> Board Seminar, and shared a MSNBC article about research having implications for hearing aid design.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.  
The next scheduled meeting is May 15, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Thibodeau  
Board Clerk