

BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND FITTERS

Minutes of April 30, 2002 Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gilbert Poliquin established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

Members Present: Gilbert Poliquin – Chairperson, Wanda Creed, Robert Bruder, Linda Snow

Members Absent: Sallie Chisholm and Dawn Dufkin-Britt

Others Present: Dennis Smith, AAG; Elaine Thibodeau, Board Administrator; Doris Breton, Board Clerk

APPLICATION REVIEW:

Shannon Dowdle-trainee permit. Motion to grant trainee permit was made by Bob Bruder. 2nd by Wanda Creed. **Vote: 4-in favor, 0-opposed**

SEMINAR UPDATE:

Gil advised the Board that he had spoken to Angela Poole who is doing a presentation. Don Marsh will be presenting something on marketing and professionalism.

CEUs: CEU request was approved for Ann Giroux.

Vote: 4-in favor, 0-opposed

APPROVAL OF March 19, 2002 MINUTES

Robert Bruder made a motion to accept the minutes as written. 2nd by Wanda Creed. **Vote: 4-in favor, 0-opposed.**

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board discussed the administration protocol for the IHS Practical Exam, which is being introduced for the administration scheduled for May 21, 2002. Board Clerk Doris Breton will be sending a letter to each person taking the exam reminding them to check their green study guide for materials and equipment they need to bring with them. The one written exam candidate will be scheduled for 8:00 a.m.

The Board also discussed the issue of Trainee Amanda Sandera-Samoluk, who had taken the National Certification Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Studies (This is distinct from the written and practical pre-licensure exams given by the NIHIS.), although she is

ineligible to be tested until she has been fully licensed for at least two years. NCE-HIS is aware of our requirements and has advised Gil Poliquin that the individual who administered it has since left the origination. He is now obtaining a copy of Ms. Sandera-Samoluk's application for examination, in order to determine whether she misrepresented herself as meeting the preconditions. NCE-HIS has suspended the certification until such time as she would have qualified to sit, but depending on what the board discovers when it reviews the test application, it may request that the certification be revoked altogether and that her passing score be voided. She currently does not even qualify for licensure, as she has not yet taken the practical exam; she has applied, however, and is scheduled for the May exam. The Board is giving her the option of leaving the application fee on-file until she takes the Practical Exam and reaches 750 hours of supervised practice (in June) or receiving the fee back and reapplying at that time. Either way, a letter will be sent to Ms. Samoluk declining her request for full licensure until she has passed the practical exam, has had the trainee permit for 6 months and has submitted the verification of training form to the Board.

Although Ms. Sandera-Samoluk holds a permit which is so-identified, the wording "First License Date," which is standard language, appears on it. The Board asked that it be revised, in order to eliminate the confusion it can cause with Trainee Permits. This change, and the establishment of a website link to IHIS, will be explored after the Office of Licensing & Registration has designated an individual to fill the currently-vacant position to work on Internet projects.

ADMINISTRATORS' COMMENTARY

Elaine announced that Karen Linscott has left her post as Director of Appointments at the Governor's Office to accept a position with the Office of Tourism and has been replaced by Penny Vaillancourt; Dawn, Linda and Wanda will let the Governor's Office know if they wish to be re-appointed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris L. Breton
Board Clerk