

# **BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

## **OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

### **SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

### **2:30-3:30 pm**

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#### **HYBRID MEETING NOTICE**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have a hybrid schedule of in-person and virtual meetings. In-person meetings will resume in FY 2023, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.*

*In-person meetings will be at 899 North Capitol Street, NE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20002.*

*Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:*

**This meeting was available by Web**

**Join By Web:**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m9b77c4fde33477cdb9456dd5be299903>

**Join by Phone**

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 473 153 723

**BOOT Mission Statement:**

**"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through the provision of health care services."**

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

OS-0923-01	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</b> On September 18, 2023, the Open Session meeting was called to order at 2:37pm and a quorum was established.</p> <p><b>Board Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Gillian Rai Board Chairperson –Present</li> <li>• Mr. Charles Bond -Present</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Staff:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LaTrice Herndon Executive Director</li> <li>• Tamika Wells – Health Licensing Specialist</li> <li>• Joanne Drozdoski – Board Attorney</li> <li>• Leonard Howard – Board Investigator</li> </ul> <p><b>Visitor:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kera Johnson –Policy Analyst</li> </ul>	
OS-0923-02	<p><b><u>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</u></b></p> <p><b>Board Action:</b> Consideration of the Open Session Agenda from the September 18, 2023 meeting.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to amend the Open Session agenda with the changes to the date of April 12, 2023, to September 18, 2023. Seconded by Dr. Rai.</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0923-03	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p><b>Operational Status</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser <a href="#">announced</a> the appointment of Dr. Ayanna Bennett as DC Health Acting Director.</li> <li>• The Council will hold a hearing on the <i>Director of the Department of Health Dr. Ayanna Bennett Confirmation Resolution of 2023 (PR25-0290)</i>. The Committee on Health will hold a hearing on <a href="#">October 5<sup>th</sup></a> at 10AM to hear from the Director.</li> </ul> <p><b>New License Type/Pathway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Board staff would like to explore in detail the different license types and license type pathways for licensure. The agency is looking to modify the</li> </ul>	<b><u>LH, KJ</u></b>

endorsement license requirements and investigate the possibility of reciprocity pathways with Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

#### **Board Vacancies/MOTA Update**

If you are considering becoming a member, please note the following requirements:

- The individual must be a DC resident, not an allied behavioral health professional.
- Must be licensed in occupational therapy profession for at least 3 years.
- Cannot be DC government employee or work for any type of DC government subsidiary.
- Must not be related to anyone currently on the Board.
- Must be in good standing in the community.

#### **Advisory Committees**

- This Fall, the Board of Occupational Therapy will be organizing a subcommittee to revise their regulations.

#### **Compact Updates**

○ The Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact has been introduced to the council. Further details will be provided in the legislative affairs report.

#### **Licensure Census**

- **Occupational Therapist: 1007**
- **Occupational Therapy Assistant: 77**

#### **Legislative Updates**

##### **Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023:**

- Councilmembers Henderson and Parker introduced the *Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023* ([B25-0312](#)) on June 2, 2023.
  - This legislation would permit non-District residents to serve on health professional licensing boards.
  - There would be restrictions, including that the Board Chair and Consumer Members would continue to need to be District residents and no more than 50% of the Board could be made up of non-District residents.
- This bill received a hearing on [July 13, 2023](#). DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the need for innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill. It will likely receive a markup in September.

##### **Health Professional Compact Bills:**

- Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the District join two health professional licensing compacts:

- The *Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2023* ([B25-0286](#)) would have the District join the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact and applies to Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants. The compact is not operational but is scheduled to start accepting applications in mid-2024.
- DC Health is evaluating these bills and here will likely be hearings this fall.

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- This bill received a hearing on [July 13, 2023](#). DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the need for innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill. It will likely receive a markup in September.

**DC Health Director Appointment:**

- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser [announced](#) the appointment of Dr. Ayanna Bennett as DC Health Acting Director.
  - Dr. Bennett is a healthcare and public health executive with more than 20 years of experience in clinical practice, clinical service design, system integration, and quality improvement. Dr. Bennett most recently served as Chief Health Equity Officer and Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Office of Health Equity.
- The Council will hold a hearing on the *Director of the Department of Health Dr. Ayanna Bennett Confirmation Resolution of 2023* ([PR25-0290](#)). The Committee on Health will hold a hearing on [October 5<sup>th</sup>](#) at 10AM to hear from the Director.

**Council Recess:**

- The council returns to session today, September 15.

**DC Health Social Media Handles:**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Facebook: @dchealth</b></li> <li>• <b>Twitter: @_DcHealth</b></li> <li>• <b>TikTok: @dchealth</b></li> <li>• <b>Instagram: @dchealth</b></li> </ul>	
OS-0923-04	<p><b><u>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p><b>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Board Attorney provides clarification regarding the practicing requirements in the district. According to the residency requirements Act for Board members. Non-resident board members must maintain physical practice in the district of Columbia to qualify to potentially be a board member as a nonresident.</li> </ul>	<b><u>JD</u></b>
OS-0923-05	<p><b><u>BOARD CHAIR’S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>No Report</u></b></p>	
OS-0923-06	<p><b><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the April 12, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to accept April 12, 2023; Open Session Minutes as written. Seconded by Dr. Rai.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0923-07	<p><b><u>Fy24 In Person Board Meeting</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board is to determine which meetings will be held in-person or virtual for fiscal year of 2024. Please note, DC Health will be relocating to a new building in February of 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>March 18, 2024</b></li> <li>• <b>June 17, 2024</b></li> <li>• <b>September 16, 2024</b></li> <li>• <b>December 16, 2024</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to accept the following FY24 dates:</p> <p><b><u>Virtual Dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ December 18, 2023</li> </ul> <p><b><u>In-Person Dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ March 18, 2024</li> <li>○ September 16, 2024</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-0923-08	<p><b><u>Open Session Consent Agenda:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting of the Board.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to accept the Open Session consent as written. Seconded by Dr. Rai.</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-0923-09	<p><b>MOTION TO CLOSE</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations. <b>The Open Session Agenda continues the next page with 'Motion to Adjourn'. The next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2023. (*Hybrid)</b></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to close the September 18, 2023, Open Session at 3:10pm. Seconded by Dr. Rai.</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-0923-10	<p><b>MOTION TO ADJOURN</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p>

*This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).*