

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

899 NORTH CAPITOL ST. NE – 2ND FL.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

January 21, 2021

9:30am-12:00pm

OPEN SESSION

MEETING MINUTES

WEBEX Virtual Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings are held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

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

This meeting was available by web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m7962eeeea220951dde4b13959a42b4c60>

This meeting was available by phone:

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208

Access Code: 160 800 4760

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-0121-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>The meeting was called to order at <u>9:35am</u> and a quorum was maintained.</p> <p>Board Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jeffrey Kraskin- Present • Dr. David Reed-Present • Dr. Lisa Johnson- Present • Dr. LaMia Jones- Present • Mr. Tracey Hammond- Present <p>Board Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ericka Walker, Executive Director-Present • Ajay Gohil, Board Attorney-Present • David Walker, Health Licensing Specialist-Present • Ashley Balma, Health Licensing Specialist-Present • Mark Donatelli, Board Investigator-Present
OS-0121-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of the January 21, 2021 meeting agenda.</p> <p>Motion:</p> <p>A motion was made to approve the January 21, 2021 Meeting Agenda by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hammond</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>Dr. Kraskin, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones and Mr. Hammond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS

OS-0121-03	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u></p> <p>Mrs. Ericka Walker, welcomed all members and staff to the January 21, 2021 Board Meeting, she informed the Board that DC Health is Still Operational with all staff working remotely to continue assisting residents and visitors of the District of Columbia. The Mayors Public Health Emergency Order has been extended until March 31, 2021. All DC Health Care Professionals should have received updated information via email from Dr. Nesbitt regarding the Covid-19 Vaccine and the distribution process. For all information regarding COVID-19, please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.</p>
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	The Board of Optometry Newsletter went out to all licensees the week of January 10 th providing updated information from the Board.	
OS-0121-04	<p><u>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT:</u></p> <p>Mr. Ajay Gohil, informed Board members and staff that all 2021 Meeting Dates have been posted in the District of Columbia Registry and online. The Association of Regulatory Boards for Optometry (ARBO) will be having their annual conference in Anehim, California. The platform in which the meeting will be hosted has not been announced.</p> <p>The current scope of practice and regulations are going to be reviewed as the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) is being updated and currently drafted.</p>	
OS-0121-05	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRS'S REPORT:</u></p> <p><i>No Report</i></p>	
OS-0121-06	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action: Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the October 15, 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Johnson to approve the open session meeting minutes from the October 15, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jones.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Kraskin, Dr. Reed, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEMS	
OS-0121-07	<p><u>FY 2021 Meeting Dates</u> Proposed Scheduled 2021 Board Meeting Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 21, 2021 • April 15, 2021 • July 15, 2021 • October 21, 2021 • January 22, 2022 <p>Motion: <i>No Motion, FYI Only</i></p>
OS-0121-08	<p><u>Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry Inquiry (ARBO)</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review and discuss an inquiry from ARBO.</p> <p>Background: Deni Amundson, Executive Secretary of the SD Board of Examiners in Optometry, has a couple of questions she'd like to ask The DC Board of Optometry:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does your state allow optometrists to perform IPL- Intense Pulsed Light? If so, do you have any laws addressing it and would you mind sharing? 2. Does your state have any regulations regarding mobile offices? If so, would you mind sharing that as well? <p>Motion: <i>No Motion</i></p>
OS-0121-09	<p><u>Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) COPE CALL FOR COMMENTS</u></p> <p>Board Action: <i>FYI Only</i></p> <p>Background: The Association of Regulatory Boards for Optometry's efforts to streamline the COPE accreditation process, has allowed for the committee to recommend combining some categories and eliminating one category. Due various state Boards regulations and requirements, COPE is seeking input from all state Boards prior to making changes of the course category descriptions.</p> <p>Motion: <i>No Motion, FYI Only</i></p>

OS-0121-10	<p><u>Review of Current Fees for Applicants</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review and discuss the current application fees.</p> <p>Background: Currently the Application & Licensure fee for Examination & Endorsement is the same rate. The Board receives more endorsement applications than examination applications.</p> <p><i>Optometrist with TPA or DPA (Examination & Endorsement)</i> <i>Application Fee \$85.00</i> <i>Licensure Fee \$348.00</i></p> <p><i>Optometrist without TPA or DPA (Examination & Endorsement)</i> <i>Application Fee \$ 85.00</i> <i>Licensure Fee \$203.00</i></p> <p>Motion: <i>No Motion</i></p>
OS-0121-11	<p><u>HORA Scope of Practice Updates</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review and discuss the current Board Scope of Practice.</p> <p>Background: The Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) is currently being updated. The scope of practice language that was in the Bill did not make it out of the Council Health Committee in 2018.</p> <p>(10) (A) "Practice of optometry" means the application of the scientific principles of optometry in the examination of the human eye, its adnexa, appendages, or visual system, with or without the use of diagnostic pharmaceutical agents to prevent, diagnose, or treat defects or abnormal conditions; the prescription or use of lenses, prisms, orthoptics, vision training or therapy, low vision rehabilitation, therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, or prosthetic devices; or the application of any method, other than invasive surgery, necessary to prevent, diagnose, or treat any defects or abnormal conditions of the human eye, its adnexa, appendages, or visual system.</p> <p>(B) The Mayor shall issue rules identifying which, and under what circumstances, diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents may be used by optometrists pursuant to this paragraph.</p> <p>(C) An individual licensed to practice optometry pursuant to this chapter may use diagnostic and therapeutic agents only if certified to do so by the Board of Optometry in accordance with the provisions of § 3-1202.07.</p> <p>(D) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize an individual licensed to practice optometry to use surgical lasers; to perform any surgery including cataract surgery or cryosurgery; or to perform radial keratotomy. For the purpose of this</p>

subparagraph, the term "surgery" shall not include punctal plugs, superficial foreign body removal, epilation, or dilation and irrigation.

(E) An individual licensed to practice optometry may administer or prescribe drugs as follows:

(i) An individual licensed to practice optometry may administer or prescribe the following drugs:

(I) Antibiotics, but not oral systemic antiviral or antifungal agents;

(II) Antihistamines;

(III) Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories;

(IV) Medication for the initiation of immediate emergency treatment of angle closure glaucoma; and

(V) Analgesics included in Schedules III through V controlled substances and analgesics included in Schedule II controlled substances consisting of hydrocodone in combination with acetaminophen, when certified by the Board of Optometry as appropriate for the diagnosis or treatment of any disease or abnormal condition of the human eye and its adnexa;

(ii) An individual licensed to practice optometry may administer or prescribe injectable systemic drugs to counter anaphylactic reactions;

(iii) Prescriptions for controlled substances issued by optometrists must be limited to a 7-day supply. If treatment with a controlled substance is required beyond the 7-day period, the optometrist shall consult with or refer the patient to another appropriate health care provider;

(iv) Optometrists permitted under this chapter to prescribe controlled substances shall obtain and have a current federal drug enforcement agency registration number and a District of Columbia controlled substances registration number prior to prescribing or administering controlled substances.

(F) REPEALED.

(G) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as preventing or restricting the practice, services, or activities of a licensed physician or as prohibiting an optician from providing eyeglasses or lenses on the prescription of a licensed physician or optometrist or a dealer from selling eyeglasses or lenses; provided, that the optician or dealer does not represent by title or description of services that he or she is an optometrist.

Motion:

No Motion

CLOSING

OS-0121-12

MOTION TO COSE

Board Action:

To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).

Background:

Upon conclusion of the open session meeting and 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.

Motion:

A motion to close the Open Session portion of the meeting was made by Dr. Johnson. Seconded by Dr. Jones.

Vote:

Dr. Kraskin, Dr. Reed, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for [April 15, 2021](#)

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.