

# BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

## MEETING MINUTES

**MAY 11, 2021**

**2:30 PM**

### Virtual Meeting Notice

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

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

#### **Join by Web**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m932fe6e3781980eb2c70dd15bed4e894>

#### **Join by Phone**

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

Access Code: 473 220 621

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES MAY 11, 2021**

**Call to Order: 2:45PM**

	<p><b><u>Roll Call:</u></b> <b><u>Board Members:</u></b> Anthony Jimenez, PhD – Chairperson Eric Jones, PhD- Board Member Joette James, PhD- Board Member</p> <p><b><u>Absent:</u></b> Teresa Grant, PhD- Board Member L. Hamilton Ferguson, MSA- Board Member</p> <p><b><u>HRLA Staff</u></b> Shauna White, Executive Director substituting for Aisha Nixon, Executive Director Fatima Abby, Health Licensing Specialist Tamika Wells, Health Licensing Specialist Christopher Boone, Board Attorney Deb Moss, Board Investigator</p>	
OS-0511-01	<p><b><u>Approval of the Agenda</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Acceptance of the May 11, 2021 Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Eric Jones to accept the January 12, 2021 Open Session Agenda with the amendment of moving Executive Session item ES-0511-10 (Delegation of Authority) under Open Session. Seconded by Dr. Joette James.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0511-02	<p><b><u>BOARD/DEPARTMENT’S REPORT</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>DC Health Operational Status</b> Dr. Shauna White, Executive Director, indicated that staff will continue to work remotely, and DC Health employees may return to the office in July 2021.</li> <li>2. <b>Mayor’s Administrative Order</b> Administrative Order was issued on March 30,</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

2021 and will expire on May 20, 2021. The Mayor can extend it to up to a 60-day grace period.

**3. New Online Application Portal**

The new online application through Salesforce will be going live soon. Staff has been working on this for a while now and it should start next week.

**4. Licensure Census**

There are 1670 licensed psychologists and psychology associates (1475 psychologists and 195 psychology associates).

• **BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

- AAG Christopher Boone provided an updated on Removing Barriers to Occupational Licensing for Returning Citizens Amendment Act of 2020. It prohibits the licensing boards from denying the licensing applications due to criminal conviction unless it is directly related to their profession. The Board will have to see how this will affect the legal process of the applications.
- Rulemaking for Reinstatement and Reactivation Continuing Education Requirements for Psychology Associate and so far there was no public comments and set to be closed for public comment this week.

• **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Dr. Anthony Jimenez and Ms. Aisha Nixon attended the ASPPB Midyear Meeting which was held virtually between April 9, 2021 to April 10, 2021. Dr. Jimenez was impressed with Ms. Nixon's presentation at meeting and praised her for her outstanding presentation.

- Concerns that were raised at the ASPPB among other Boards:
  - I. Social Media Persona of Licensed Psychologist by distinguishing between personal and professional profiles.
  - II. Licensure Portability between States
  - III. Master Program in Psychology for psychology associate.
- Discussion on allowing applicants to take EPPP before or after internship. Most states required that individual completes all the requirement before taking the EPPP exam. This can be discussed at the subcommittee.

<p><b>OS-0511-03</b></p>	<p><b><u>Open Session Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from March 9, 2021 meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Joette James to accept the March 9, 2021 Open Session Minutes. Seconded by Dr. Eric Jones.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>OS-0511-04</b></p>	<p><b><u>Health Occupation Revision Act (HORA) Revision</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board is to review and revise the HORA related to the professional’s scope of practices for psychology and psychology associates.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> During the March 2021 meeting, the Board voted to adopt the ASPPB Model Act related to the scope of practices and requested the Board attorney incorporate teaching and research on the draft.</p> <p>In January 2021, the Board Chair recommended to review and use the ASPPB scope of practice.</p> <p>16) (A) (i) "Practice of psychology" means the development and application, with or without compensation, of scientific concepts, theories, methods, techniques, procedures, and principles of psychology to aid in the understanding, measuring, explaining, predicting, preventing, fostering, and treating of abilities, disabilities, attributes, or behaviors that are: (I) Principally cognitive, such as aptitudes, perceptions, attitudes, or intelligence; (II) Affective, such as happiness, anger, or depression; or As of 6/2015 28 (III) Behavioral, such as physical abuse. (ii) The term "practice of psychology" includes: (I) Coaching, consulting, counseling, and various types of therapy, such as behavior therapy, group therapy, hypnotherapy, psychotherapy, and marriage, couples, and family therapy; (II) Intellectual, personality, behavioral, educational, neuropsychological, and psycho-physiological testing; and (III) Professional activities, such as</p>	

research, teaching, training, interviewing, assessment, evaluation, pharmacology, and biofeedback. (B) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as preventing or restricting the practice, services, or activities of: (i) An individual bearing the title of psychologist in the employ of an academic institution, research organization, or laboratory, if the psychology-based activities or services offered are within the scope of employment, are consistent with his or her professional training and experience, and provided within the confines of employment; [or] (ii) A school psychologist employed by and working in accordance with the regulations of the District of Columbia Board of Education.

§ 3-1209.06. Psychology associate. (a) A person who is engaged as a psychology associate in the District shall register with the Mayor, renew the registration as required by rule, and pay the required registration fee established by the Mayor. (b) A person registered to practice as a psychology associate may provide psychological services and activities while under the direct supervision of a psychiatrist, or a licensed psychologist with a doctoral degree in psychology. As of 6/2015 122 (c) A psychology associate shall have graduated from an accredited college or university with at least a Master's degree based on a program of studies primarily focusing on psychology, or a program judged by the Board to be substantially equivalent in subject matter and extent of training to a master's or doctoral degree in psychology. (d) The Mayor, pursuant to § 2-501 et seq., shall issue rules further setting forth the education and experience needed to qualify as a psychology associate.

(q) Unless authorized to practice psychology under this chapter, a person shall not use the words or terms "psychology," "psychologist", "psychology associate", or similar title or description of services with the intent to represent that the person practices psychology.

Dr. Jimenez suggested that the degree requirement for psychology associate should graduate from accredited college or university with at least master's degree in psychology. Dr. Jimenez also suggested to remove the word "other" under item C (i) of the practice of psychology associate.

**Motion:**

	<p>Motion made by Dr. Anthony Jimenez to accept the revision of the scope of practices of psychology and psychology associate with the modifications stated. Seconded by Dr. Eric Jones.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>Addendum</b> (This item was originally numbered as ES-0511-10 and was moved from Executive Session to Open Session)</p>	<p><b><u>Revised Proposed Delegated Authorities</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board is to review the clarification in the approved delegated authorities and determine whether to accept.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> During March 2021 meeting, the Board voted to adopt the delegated authorities. A small amendment has been proposed that clarify that ED may request the issuance of a subpoena and Board Attorney may sign it.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Eric Jones to accept the addition of authorizing the attorney to sign subpoenas for records requested by the Board. Seconded by Dr. Joette James.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>OS-0511-05</b></p>	<p><b><u>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><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Anthony Jimenez to accept the Open Session Consent Agenda. Seconded by Dr. Eric Jones.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b></p>	

	Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
<b>OS-0511-06</b>	<p><b><u>Motion to Close</u></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> Chairperson, I move that the Board close the Open Public session portion of the meeting and move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the following purposes: to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to § 2-575(b)(9); to seek the advice of counsel to the board, to preserve the attorney-client privilege, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4); and to plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to § 2-575(b)(14).”</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Anthony Jimenez to close the Open Session Meeting. Seconded by Dr. Eric Jones.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Dr. Anthony Jimenez, Dr. Joette James, and Dr. Eric Jones voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 13, 2021** at **2:30 pm**.

*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).*