

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

MAY 22, 2023

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

In Peron Meeting Notice

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, 2nd 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

Board of Social Work - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m98cde39750bd20eaace19ba67f6a4693>

This meeting was available by Phone

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

Access Code: 478 300 028

BOSW 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 May 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Absent
	MARJAN SHALLAL, LGSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	SELERYA MOORE, CONSUMER MEMBER	Present
STAFF:		
	LATRICE HERNDON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	MAVIS AZARIAH ARMATTOE- HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	JOANNE DROZDOSKI, ESQ.- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Absent
	MATTEO LIEB, POLICY ANALYST	Present
VISITORS:	ADELE NATTER, LICSW, GWSCSW	
	STEVE SZOPA, LICSW GWSCSW	
	RACHEL DOYLE	
	TAWANA LEE	
	GINA SANGSTER	
	WILL DOYLE	
	AMBER RIEKE	
	DEBRA RIGGS, NASW	
	HANNANATU SANNOH	
	ROBYN MEREDITH	
	ALLISON FAX	

OPEN SESSION MINUTES May 22, 2023

	<p><u>Roll Call:</u> Meeting called to order at 10:09AM and a quorum was established.</p>	VS
OS-0522-01	<p><u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda:</u></p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Marjan Shallal to accept the May 22, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-0522-02	<p><u>Executive Director’s Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no updates on operational status, everything remains the same. • The SW Renewals started on May 1, 2023. Ms. Herndon advised the Board and public that same day renewals are no longer in effect and therefore social workers need to submit renewals early to avoid delays in license renewals. • The next 2 Social Work Board meetings will be held in person for Board Members and Board staff only at DC Health 899 North Capitol Street NE 2nd Floor in Board Room 216. The dates are June 23 and July 24. The Public will continue to join the meetings virtually. • DC Health Social Media Handles are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facebook: @dchealth 2. Twitter: @_DcHealth 3. TikTok: @dchealth 4. Instagram: @dchealth We recommend all licensees to follow DC health on Social Media. • Licensure Census: Total of 6,258 active Social Workers: 1,572 LGSW, 4585 LICSW, 43 LISW, and 58 LSWA <p><u>Legislative Updates</u></p> <p><u>FY 2024 Budget:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Mayor released the proposed FY 2024 budget on March 22nd and hosted a presentation about it that same day to the Council. ▪ On March 24th, the Committee of the Whole held a hearing on the FY 2024 budget during which Councilmembers 	

asked the Mayor and her team detailed questions about the proposed budget.

- DC Health's had its Budget Oversight hearing on [April 10th](#) (public witnesses) and then [April 12th](#) (DC Health representatives). During the hearing there were many topics raised including professional licensing, animal services, and school nursing.
- The Committee on Health held its budget mark-up for DC Health on April 26th at 11:30am. In that mark-up, changes include:
 - Funding dementia training for direct care workers
 - Allocating over \$1.4 million for the high-need healthcare scholarship program
 - Providing an additional 2.25 licensing professionals within the Office of Health Professional Licensing Boards
 - Enhancing funding for food access programs at DC Health
- The Committee of the Whole subsequently made some additional changes (around senior dental and food access). The Council had its first reading on the FY 2024 budget on May 16th with no Councilmembers voting in opposition. The second reading for the FY 2024 budget is scheduled for May 30th.

Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Legislation:

- Councilmember Robert White has reintroduced the *Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023*, which would establish the Behavioral Health and Human Services Scholarship Program administered by UDC for students with bachelor's degrees seeking to obtain an accredited master's degree required for licensure by the Board of Social Work or the Board of Professional Counseling.
 - The scholarship funds will pay for UDC tuition, academic costs such as books and supplies, a monthly stipend toward living expenses and transportation, and fees associated with obtaining a license for a behavioral health occupation in the District. Both District residents and employees are eligible for the program.
 - Once a participant completes their master's program and obtains licensure, they are required to

	<p>work in a behavioral health occupation at a District local education agency, government agency, or health care provider organization for at least two years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for this legislation was added into the proposed FY 2024 budget (\$1.2 million). <p>FGM/C Legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councilmember Pinto has reintroduced the <i>Female Genital Mutilation Prohibition Act of 2023</i> (B25-0247) along with Councilmembers Frumin, Nadeau, Henderson, Gray, and Allen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This legislation prohibits the practice of female genital mutilation or cutting. It also requires the development of educational materials for mandated reporters and other members of the community by DC Health. ▪ This bill has been referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety. Last Council Period, a similar version of this bill (B24-0516) received a hearing during which many organizations testified in support. <p>Federal Spouse Licensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Congress has recently passed legislation to reduce barriers for military spouses to gaining licensure in new jurisdictions. This legislation, the <i>Veterans Auto and Education Improvement Act of 2022</i> (H.R. 7939), went into effect on January 5th, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This new law intends to ensure that military spouses with professional licensure in good standing in other states can practice in new states where their spouses are relocated. ▪ The Office of Health Professional Licensing Boards and the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) are working to establish a process by which military spouses could attain privileges to practice in the District. <p>Compact Legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the District join two health professional licensing compacts: 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The <i>Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2023</i> (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. ○ The <i>Counseling Compact Approval Act of 2023</i> (B25-0287) would have the District join the Counseling Compact and applies to Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DC Health is evaluating both pieces of legislation. No further action is currently scheduled for either piece of legislation. <p>Health Licensing Board Roundtable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Committee on Health will host a roundtable for five health professional licensing boards on June 8th from 10am to 1pm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This roundtable will feature the Boards of Professional Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy, Dentistry, Optometry, and Respiratory Care. ○ The Chairperson for each Board will testify on their behalf. <p>Social Work Examination License:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councilmember R. White has introduced the <i>Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023</i> (B25-0259) along with nine other Councilmembers (including four members of the Committee on Health). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The bill prevents the Board of Social Work from requiring that Licensed Social Work Associates (LSWA) and Licensed Graduate Social Workers (LGSW) pass an examination to attain a license. The legislation also requires the creation of a Social Work Licensure Task Force. ▪ DC Health is evaluating this legislation. No further action is currently scheduled for this legislation. 	
OS-0522-03	<p><u>Chairperson’s Report:</u> None</p>	VS
OS-0522-04	<p><u>Boards Attorney’s Report:</u></p>	

	The Board attorney also encouraged Social Workers to renew licenses early since legal reviews may also impact the timely processing of renewal applications.	
OS-0522-05	<p><u>Open Session Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the April 27, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Marjan Shallal to approve the April 27, 2023; Open Session Minutes as presented. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0522-06	<p><u>Open Session Consent Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to approve the May Open session Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0522-07	<p><u>Request from CFSA about BSWs</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board to take appropriate action.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Review of the Position Description for BSWs for CFSA (Child and Family Services Administration) and if it is sufficient or if it needs</p>	

	<p>to be further revised.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to approve the BSW Job Description submitted by CFSA. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velve Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0522-08	<p><u>Endorsement Requirements/Reciprocity Pathway</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> The Board is to discuss and establish easier licensure pathways.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> In Attempt to provide easier pathways to licensure we are requesting each board to discuss and evaluate the following possibilities: Endorsement requirements, reciprocity pathways, and DMV reciprocity pathways.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore for the Social Work Board to allow review and revision of the Endorsement pathway to see if any necessary amendments should be made. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velve Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore for the Social Work Board to begin the process to determine reciprocity pathway for license in the DMV is possible. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velve Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0522-09	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board</p>	

	<p>will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a). 2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6). 3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9). 4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b) (14). <p>The next meeting is scheduled for <u>June 26, 2023</u>.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to close the Open Session Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<p><u>Open Session Board FYI only</u></p>	

OS-0522-10	<p><u>Request from Adele Nater</u></p> <p><u>Pending:</u> Board working on developing a policy guidance on Group Supervision.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Ms. Natter on behalf of the Greater Washington Society has submitted a request for the Board to accept group supervision towards individual hours for clinical licensure. The DC Board’s policy has been group supervision are counted towards general supervision hours. The ASWB Model Law recommends that fifty percent of the required individual supervision hours towards clinical licensure can be completed via group supervision and the group supervision may contain no more than 6 supervisees.</p>	
OS-0522-11	<p><u>Ethical Concerns with DC Sexual Assault Victim’s Rights Amendment Act of 2019</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Board received an email from Ms. Sherrod regarding the DC law on Teen advocates. The DC Sexual Assault Victims’ Rights Amendment Act of 2019 included the right to an advocate for 13 to 17-year-old youth in DC who have experienced sexual assault. For youth in this age range who were specifically impacted by peer-on-peer or stranger assault, the right to an advocate comes with an exemption to mandated reporting. A licensee would like the Board’s guidance since it had potential ethical implications on social workers.</p>	
OS-0522-12	<p><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> 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> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to adjourn the SW May Board Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore</p>	

	voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
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This ends the Open Session Agenda.

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.