

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

November 27, 2023

10.00 AM to 2:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

In Person 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."

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	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
	ANTHEA ISSACS, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Present
	KERA JOHNSON, POLICY ANALYST	Present
VISITORS:		
	ADELE NATTER	
	AMBER RIEKE	Present
	STEVE SZOPA	Present
	WILL DOYLE	Present
	KAREN GUILLORY	Present
	GINA SANGSTER	Present
	TAWANA LEE	Present
	JALYN McDERMOTT	Present
	LILLI JOHNSON	Present
	MANGA OMASAMBO	Present

OPEN SESSION AGENDA November 27, 2023

	<u>Roll Call</u>	VS
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	Meeting called to order at 10:11AM and a quorum was established.	
OS-1127-01	<p><u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to accept the November 27, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler and Ms. Marjan Shallal voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1127-02	<p><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ayanna Bennett has been confirmed as Director for DC Health • The Agency is on target to Move to its new location Shannon Place in February 2024. January's in person meeting will be the last meeting in this building. • Board members and visitors are encouraged to inform any psychologists they know that early renewals are recommended to avoid any delays in the processing of their renewals. • Art Therapy licensure is live Board members and public who know of any Art Therapist can inform them to apply for their DC License. PT Compact is also Live Board members and public can inform any PTs interested in receiving DC privileges to apply. • Social Work CE Audit is underway if you receive notice of being audited you are encouraged to respond timely to avoid any actions from the Board • Licensure Census: Total of 5920 active Social Workers: 1,399 LGSW, 4488 LICSW, 37 LISW, and 44 LSWA <p><u>Legislative Updates:</u> Please refer to item number OS-1127-07</p>	LH
OS-1127-03	<p><u>Chairperson's Report:</u> Ms. Spriggs reported that she attended the ASWB Delegate Assembly from November 2-4, 2023. There was robust discussion related to the following issues/concerns: 1) What is the future of the profession relative to ensuing workforce/staffing challenges tied to licensing and deregulation pressures in some states; 2) Interprofessional conflicts relative to role differentiation with other professions; 3) Social justice issues and the role of social</p>	VS

	<p>work and social work regulations in responding to modern-day challenges, such as the refugee crisis, citizen rights, healthcare; 4) the role of technology, i.e. AI; 5) Supervision and social work regulations; 6) The impact and desirability of compacts (Many states already moving in this direction - Maryland and Virginia have signed up); 7) Testing and licensing challenges and how to address them. The Administrative Forum for staff members of Boards met concurrently. A summary of the Administrative Forum's issues was reported in the general session. Those issues included: 1) Supervision; 2) Workforce enhancement requests; 3) Legislative changes and trends; 4) Nuts & Bolts of processing applications; 5) Issues of reciprocity and compacts; 6) Regulatory research as critically important to the evaluation of practice, program, and policy effectiveness. Both Maryland and Virginia indicated that their Boards have chosen to sign onto compacts which will require a license. Virginia expects to have officially entered into a compact within a year while continuing to utilize the ASWB exam. The timing for Maryland was less definite. Furthermore, Maryland has formed a workgroup to design its own licensing exam and prepare for entering a compact. In the general session, two themes were among the most prominent ones: 1) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): must be intentional and operational throughout ASWB; 2) Social Work Licensing and Regulations research to include attention to exam pass rates; alternatives to traditional ASWB testing.</p>	
OS-1127-04	<p><u>Boards Attorney's Report:</u> Ms. Drozdoski reported that December 7th will be a very busy day with the HORA updated hearing she and all the Executive Directors will be in attendance. The HORA revision has been done over a 7 year period the last updates was in 2015.</p>	JD
OS-1127-05	<p><u>Open Session Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the October 23, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u></p>	

	<p>Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to approved the October 23, 2023, Open Session minutes as presented. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler and Ms. Marjan Shallal voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1127-06	<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. Wanda Wheeler to approve the November 27, 2023, Open Session Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler and Ms. Marjan Shallal voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1127-07	<p><u>OGR Updates</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board to take appropriate action if required.</p> <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p><i>New Legislation and Upcoming Hearings:</i> Alternative Restorative Therapy (ART) Options for Youth Amendment Act of 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councilmember Henderson, alongside Councilmembers Pinto, Frumin, Allen, Lewis George, McDuffie, and R. White introduced the <i>ART Options for Youth Amendment Act of 2023</i> (B25-0500) on September 26, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This bill amends the <i>Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1977</i> with the goal of expanding therapy options for children under the care of CFSA. 	

	<p>It proposes the inclusion of alternative therapies including art therapy, music therapy, drama therapy, dance or movement therapy, and narrative therapy to facilitate opportunities for youth to express their experiences non-verbally and physically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A hearing is scheduled for December 6th <p>Behavioral Analyst Licensure Amendment Act of 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councilmember Henderson, alongside Councilmembers T. White, Parker, R. White, and Frumin introduced the <i>Behavioral Analyst Licensure Amendment Act of 2023</i> (B25-0566) on November 6, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This bill establishes the profession of Behavior Analysts (BAs) as a licensed healthcare profession. This bill would place the profession under the oversight of the DC Health Board of Professional Counseling, aiming to enhance the professionalism of the field and expand the scope of practice for BAs, ultimately enabling them to address a broader range of behavioral and mental health challenges. • A hearing is scheduled for December 7th <p>Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC Health worked on a significant revision of the HORA. This would be the first significant revision in seventeen years. • The revised HORA received Mayoral approval, has been introduced in the Council as the <i>Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2023</i> (B25-0545), and referred to the Committee on Health on November 7th. • A hearing is scheduled for December 7th <p>Health Professional Compact Bills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the District join two health professional licensing compacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 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). • A hearing for the Occupational Therapy and Counseling Compacts is scheduled for December 7th <p>Council Approved Legislation:</p>	
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	<p>DC Health Director Appointment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting Director Bennett's nomination has officially been approved as of November 7th <p>Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councilmember Robert White has reintroduced the <i>Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023</i> (B25-0055), 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 work in a behavioral health occupation at a District local education agency, government agency, or health care provider organization for at least two years. Funding for this legislation was added into the proposed FY 2024 budget (\$1.2 million). The bill passed it's final reading on November 7th and is awaiting Mayoral approval. <p>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councilmembers Henderson and Parker introduced the <i>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023</i> (B25-0312) on June 2, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This legislation permits non-District residents to serve on health professional licensing boards. There are restrictions, including that the Board Chair and Consumer Members are still required to be 	
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	<p>District residents and no more than 50% of the Board could be made up of non-District residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bill passed it's final reading on November 7th and is awaiting Mayoral approval. <p>No Motion was made on this. This matter was reported under the Legislative Updates by Ms. Kera Johnson.</p>	
OS-1127-08	<p><u>Request from Adele Nater</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board to review and discuss comments from Stakeholders.</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. The Board has developed a proposed statement on group supervision and would like the public to review and comment.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> There was no motion made the Board received feed back from the public regarding the draft policy and would update where necessary.</p>	
Addendum	<p><u>Standard Fine and Assessments</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> The Board is to review and discuss the fine and assessments and determine whether to make amendments.</p> <p>This matter was tabled to the January Board meeting</p>	
OS-1127-09	<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 will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p>	

	<p>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).</p> <p>2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6).</p> <p>3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9).</p> <p>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> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for <u>January 22, 2024.</u></p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to close the Open Session Meeting at 11.37am. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<u>Open Session Board FYI only</u>	
OS-1127-10	<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</p>	

	the Board's guidance since it had potential ethical implications on social workers.	
OS-1127-11	<p><u>Endorsement Requirements/Reciprocity Pathway</u></p> <p><u>Pending:</u> Boards contact with the states of VA and MD to pursue reciprocity 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. ASWB Model Act Section 308. Qualifications for Licensure by Endorsement. (a) To obtain a license by endorsement at the equivalent designation and subject to Article IV of this Act, an applicant currently licensed as a social worker in another jurisdiction must provide evidence satisfactory to the Board, subject to Article III, Section 311, that the applicant: (1) Has submitted a written application and paid the fee as specified by the Board; and (2) Has presented to the Board proof of an active social work license in good standing.</p> <p>The Board has voted to pursue reciprocity licensure pathways with the states of VA and MD. The Board voted not to make any changes to the current endorsement checklist.</p>	
OS-1127-12	<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. Marjan Shallal to adjourn the November Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Selerya moore.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Wanda Wheeler, Ms. Marjan Shallal and Ms. Selerya Moore voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

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.