

## BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

**September 25, 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."**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b>		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	MARJAN SHALLAL, LGSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	SELERYA MOORE, CONSUMER MEMBER	Present
<b>STAFF:</b>		
	LAtrice HERNDON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	FATIMA ABBY- HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	JOANNE DROZDOSKI, ESQ.- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Absent
	KERA JOHNSON, POLICY ANALYST	Present
<b>VISITORS:</b>		
	STEVE SZOPA	Present
	KAREN GUILLORY	Present
	WILL DOYLE	Present
	GINA SANGSTER	Present

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES September 25, 2023**

	<p><b><u>Roll Call</u></b> Meeting called to order at 10:05AM and a quorum was established.</p>	VS
OS-0925-01	<p><b><u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to accept the September 25, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal, Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0925-02	<p><b><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></b> The Executive Director LaTrice Herndon provided updates on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Operational Status Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor Muriel Bowser appointed a new Acting DC Health Director, Dr. Ayanna Bennett. Dr. Bennett started on July 17, 2023 and the confirmation will be on October 5, 2023.</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Licensure Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1667 LGSW, 4881 LICSW, 37 LISW, and 44 LSWA</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Legislative Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kera Johnson reported on Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023 which was held on September 21, 2023. No update decision has been made on this matter as of yet.</li> <li>• Ms. LaTrice Herndon reminded the visitors and those who missed the hearing that the recorded hearing is available on the Council of District of Columbia.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	LH
OS-0925-03	<p><b><u>Chairperson's Report:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Velva Springs, Board Chair, provided an update on the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023. Ms. Springs testified in the hearing along with the Associate Director Ms. Aisha Nixon and Ms. LaTrice Herndon.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	VS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Springs will be attending the 2023 Annual Meeting of Delegate Assembly in Memphis, Tennessee, on November 3-4, 2023.</li> </ul>	
OS-0925-04	<p><b><u>Boards Attorney's Report:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Joanne Drozdowski, Attorney, indicated that there is a quorum for this board meeting.</li> <li>Ms. Drozdowski, Attorney, attended the Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023.</li> </ul>	JD
OS-0925-05	<p><b><u>Open Session Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the July 24, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Marjan Shallal to accept the September 25, 2023, Open Session Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal, Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0925-06	<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.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Marjan Shallal to accept the Open Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b></p>	

	Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal, Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
OS-0925-07	<p><b><u>In Person Meetings for FY 2024.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To decide on what months to meet in person in Fiscal Year 2024.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> DC Health Require Boards to meet 3 times in person in a fiscal year. The 2024 Fiscal Year begins October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The Board Meetings are scheduled for the following dates:  <b>October 23, 2023 (In-person)</b>  November 27, 2023  January 22, 2024  <b>February 26, 2024 (In-person)</b>  March 25, 2024  April 22, 2024  June 24, 2024  July 22, 2024  September 23, 2024.  The Board has been given the task of deciding today what months they would like to meet in person.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> The Board requested to make changes on the October meeting to October 23, 2023.</p> <p>No motion was made. The Board members decided to review their calendars. Once they do that, they will send an email to Ms. LaTrice Herndon.</p>	
OS-0925-08	<p><b><u>OGR Updates</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Board to take appropriate action if required.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b></p>	

	<p>Councilmember R. White has introduced the <i>Social Work License Modernization Amendment Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0259</a>) along with nine other Councilmembers (including four members of the Committee on Health).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> <p>A hearing was held on September 21, 2023.</p> <p><b><u>DC Health Director Appointment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> No Action required.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser <a href="#">announced</a> 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 <i>Director of the Department of Health Dr. Ayanna Bennett Confirmation Resolution of 2023</i> (<a href="#">PR25-0290</a>). The Committee on Health will hold a hearing on <a href="#">October 5<sup>th</sup></a> at 10AM to hear from the Director.</p> <p>No Motion was made on this. This matter was reported under the Legislative Updates by Ms. Kera Johnson.</p>	
OS-0925-09	<p><b><u>Endorsement Requirements/Reciprocity Pathway</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board to review the current endorsement checklist to update it to ensure an easy endorsement pathway.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> In Attempt to provide easier pathways to licensure we are requesting each board to discuss and evaluate the following possibilities: Endorsement requirements.</p>	

	<p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> No motion was made on this matter. The Board requested for additional time to review the endorsement application checklist.</p> <p>In addition, the Board Executive Director asked the Board to decide on reciprocity pathway on whether to establish easier licensure pathway with Virginia and Maryland Board. The Board requested to get the summary of the Virginia and Maryland.</p> <p>Tabled to the next board meeting.</p>	
OS-0925-10	<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> 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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).</li> <li>2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6).</li> <li>3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9).</li> <li>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).</li> </ol> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for <b><u>October 23, 2023.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Open Session Board FYI only</u></b></p>	

OS-0925-11	<p><b><u>Request from Adele Nater</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Pending:</u></b> Board working on developing a policy guidance on Group Supervision.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> 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-0925-12	<p><b><u>Ethical Concerns with DC Sexual Assault Victim's Rights Amendment Act of 2019</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> 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-0925-13	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></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> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to close the Open Session meeting. Seconded by Ms. Marjan Shallal.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b></p>	



	Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Marjan Shallal, Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
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***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).***

**This ends the Open Session Agenda.**