

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

MEETING MINUTES

JULY 21, 2023

10:00 AM – 2:00PM

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:

Join by Web

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=mb7db2da02f1ac65acba8e248dc72d81a>

Join by Phone

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

Access Code: 475 199 633

OPEN SESSION July 21st, 2023

Call to Order:

OS-0721-01	<p><u>Roll Call:</u></p> <p><u>Board Members:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Sherk – Chairperson-Present <p><u>Board Staff:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LaTrice Herndon- Executive Director • Whitney Moore- Health Licensing Specialist • Anthea Issacs- Health Licensing Specialist • Suzanne Fenzel – Assistant General Counsel • Angel Cruz-Assistant General Counsel • Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer • Leonard Howard – Board Investigator • Matteo Lieb- Policy Analyst • Kayle Cole- Policy Analyst 	
OS-0721- 02	<p><u>Approval of the Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>Acceptance of the July 21st Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u></p> <p>Motion made by Victoria Sherk to accept the July 21TH 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u></p> <p>Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0721- 03	<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Status Update • Licensure Census CAC1-86 CAC2-152 LGPC-400 LPC-1645 • Legislative Update: <p>Council Recess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council went on recess effective July 14 and will return to session on September 15. <p>Board Membership Legislation:</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 would permit non-District residents to serve on health professional licensing boards. 	

- There would be restrictions, including that the Board Chair and Consumer Members would continue to need to be District residents and no more than 50% of the Board could be made up of non-District residents.
- This bill received a hearing on [July 13, 2023](#). DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the need for innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill.

Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Legislation:

- Councilmember Robert White has reintroduced the *Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023* ([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.
 - 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). This legislation received a hearing in the Committee of the Whole on [July 12th](#).

Opioid Epidemic Hearing:

- The Committee on Health and the Committee on Hospital & Health Equity are hosting a joint public roundtable on June 28th at 10:30am to discuss the District's opioid and fentanyl crisis.
- DC Health will provide testimony during this hearing alongside the Department of Behavioral Health and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.
- You can learn more at the following [link](#) and watch the hearing on the [Council website](#).

Compact Legislation:

- Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the District join two health professional licensing compacts:
 - The *Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2023* ([B25-0286](#)) would have the District join the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact and applies to

	<p>Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants. The compact is not operational but is scheduled to start accepting applications in mid-2024.</p> <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). ▪ Additionally, Councilmember Frumin has introduced the <i>District of Columbia Nurse Licensure Compact Authorization Act of 2023</i> (B25-0430) which applies to Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs). ▪ DC Health is evaluating these bills. No further action is currently scheduled for either piece of legislation. • DC HEALTH social media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Facebook: @dchealth ▫ Twitter: @_DcHealth ▫ TikTok: @dchealth ▫ Instagram: @dchealth • Additional Updates 	
OS-0721-04	<p>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Report 	
OS-0721--05	<p>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Report 	
OS-0721-06	<p><u>Open Session Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from June, 20 2023, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to accept the minutes from June 20th,2023 Open Session Agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

<p>OS-0721-07</p>	<p><u>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>Motion:</u> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to approve the open session consent agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<p>OS-0721-08</p>	<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> <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 	

	<p>and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to close open session. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>THIS SECTION IS FYI ONLY</u> <u>NO BOARD DECISION OR ACTION IS NEEDED</u></p>	
OS-FY1	<p><u>Supervised Practice Form</u></p> <p><u>Update:</u> Pending the subcommittee meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> A supervised practice form is listed under section 9105.8 regarding the supervised experience requirement which requires the supervisor(s) to submit the completed form to the Board. The purpose of the graduate professional counseling license is to allow individual to practice under supervision of a licensed professional counselor. However, the regulations also indicate a supervisor or supervisee shall submit a supervised practice form within 2 weeks of commencing supervision. In March 2022, the Board tabled to address the supervised practice form for the subcommittee.</p>	

OS-FY2

Discussion on Supervision

Update:

Pending Additional Information.

Background:

In April 2022, Ms. Sherk requested interpretation and further guidance to elaborate on the existing regulation regarding the supervision (specifically whether or not to have a primary supervisor).

In May 2022, the Board requested to table this matter for the next Board meetings for additional information.

The next open session meeting is September 15, 2023 IN PERSON at 10:00 am

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.