

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

OPEN SESSION MEETING

MINUTES NOVEMBER 16, 2023

1:30 PM

In-Person and Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have in-person and virtual meetings. Please see the hybrid schedule in the Meeting Dates section of the agenda.

In-person meetings will be held at 899 North Capitol St., NE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20002. Information on how to access virtual Board meetings is listed below:

Board of Massage Therapy - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=mfb1c085fe626a413fa9f3afd9c32502b>

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 1:30 pm | 1 hour | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
Meeting number: 473 998 269
Password: e8bM4kYdMu7

Join by the video system.
Dial 473998269@dcnet.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone.
+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)
1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)
Access code: 473 998 269

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
Open Session Agenda November 16, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:	
Johanna Brooks, LMT – Board Chairperson	PRESENT
Cary Bland, LMT – Board Member	PRESENT
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	VACANT
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	VACANT
Maisha Goss Johns – Board Consumer Member	ABSENT
BOARD STAFF:	
Ericka L. Walker, MSW - Executive Director	PRESENT
Thelma Ofosu-Mensah, Health Licensing Specialist	PRESENT
Ajay Gohil, Assistant General Counsel	PRESENT
Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer	PRESENT
Leonard Howard, Investigator	PRESENT

OPEN SESSION AGENDA, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

OS-1116-01	CALL TO ORDER: 1:49 PM	
OS-1116-02	<p><u>ROLL CALL</u> Johanna Brooks- Chairperson Cary Bland – Board Member Gohil- Board Attorney Ericka Walker – Executive Director Gregory Scurlock- Supervisory Investigator Leonard Howard- Investigator Thelma Ofosu- Mensah- Health Licensing Specialist</p>	
OS-1116-03	<p><u>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA</u> <u>Board Action:</u> Acceptance of November 16, 2023, Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Mr. Bland to accept the November 16, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Brooks.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1116-04	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Ms. Ericka Walker gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a hearing on the Residency Requirements Amendment Act, on July 13, 2023, which will require innovative solutions to fill Board vacancies in the district. There was a final review of the Bill on November 7, 2023, and it is now pending Mayoral Approval. • She informed the Board that Dr. Ayanna Bennett's nomination as DC Health Director was unanimously approved by the Council on November 7, 2023, hence Dr. Bennet is officially the DC Health Director. • On September 27, 2023, DC Health organized an Inter Collaborative Board (IBC) symposium for all Board members to ensure a collaborative effort amongst the various Boards. She further indicated that a post-symposium section was held to form a steering committee comprised of Board members or chairs to continue the activities of the goals and objectives that were discussed during the September 27, 2023, symposium. Ms. Walker informed the Board that another section on the committee is scheduled for November 30, 2023. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A hearing is scheduled on December 7, 2023, for the upcoming changes to the HORA. • Census 621 • Upcoming Meeting Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ January 18, 2024 (In-person) ➤ March 21, 2024 ➤ May 16, 2024 (In-person) ➤ July 18, 2024 ➤ September 19, 2024 ➤ November 21, 2024 (In-person) • District of Columbia COVID-19 https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine • District of Columbia Monkeypox https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox • The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) recruits talented and interested individuals from all eight Wards to serve on District Boards. Link to apply to serve on a Board: https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seat 	
OS-1116-05	<p><u>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Brooks gave a summary of the topics discussed at the Annual FSMTB meeting in San Diego, California on September 28-30, 2023. She indicated that some of the topics discussed included Human Trafficking, the rise of Illicit massage, and the rise of collaborative efforts being made by member states to curb the issues in the profession. • On October 24, 2023, there was a legislative summit attended by an FSMTB representative in Washington DC to discuss a new Interstate Massage Compact Legislation (IMPACT). She further informed the Board that she also attended the meeting and gave a summary of the topics discussed during the meeting. 	
OS-1116-06	<p><u>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Mr. Ajay Gohil gave an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change of Scope of Practice on Massage Therapy in the HORA • He informed the Board that he discussed with FSMTB creating a State Board Attorney Section Forum where State Board Attorneys can share ideas amongst themselves. • He advised the Board that they should endeavor to attend the Hearing Meeting on November 30, 2023, scheduled by DC Council. 	

OS-1116-07	<p>LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</p> <p>No Report</p>	
OS-1116-08	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the September 21, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Mr. Bland to accept the September 21, 2023, Open Session Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Brooks.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1116-09	<p><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the applications approved and items 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 Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Applications Approved Since September 21, 2023.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mynai Abram • Tiffany Spencer • Marques Branch • Patrick Hall • Maria Claudia Amorim Sobrinho • Renair Montgomery • Higor Costa Santos • Scott Brown • Alexander Luciano • Jeanine McSorley <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Mr. Bland to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Ms. Brooks.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

OS-1116-10	<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 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 the 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 Mr. Bland to close the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Brooks.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
Roll Call Vote		
OS-1116-11	This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion.	

This ends the Open Session Agenda.
The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2024- In- person.

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