

# BOARD OF PODIATRY MEETING MINUTES

**OCTOBER 7, 2020**

**1:30 pm to 4:30 pm**

## Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings will be held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

Join by Web

Meeting number: 172 051 3015

Password: Y42nVQirZ8v

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m7d9ae6443e07f2d8787da9a436216c36>

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: 172 051 3015

**BOARD OF PODIATRY**  
**OPEN SESSION OCTOBER 7, 2020**

OS-1007 -01	<p><b><u>CALL TO ORDER: 1:40PM</u></b></p> <p>The Open Session meeting was called to order at 1:40 PM and a quorum was established.</p>	
OS-1007 -02	<p><b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Members:</u></b> Teresa Hilliard, DPM – Chairperson Michangelo Scruggs, DPM - Member Barbara Clark- Member</p> <p><b><u>HRLA Staff</u></b> Frank Meyers- Associate Director Ericka Walker- Executive Director Aisha Nixon- Executive Director Thelma Ofosu- Mensah – Health Licensing Specialist Deb Moss- Board Investigator Gregory Scurlock – Compliance Officer Ajay Gohil - Assistant General Counsel Erin Donnelly – Legal Intern</p>	
OS-1007-03	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ACCEPT THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Scruggs to accept the October 7, 2020 Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Dr. Hilliard.</p> <p>Dr. Scruggs, and Dr. Hilliard voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1007-04	<p><b><u>DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Board to review and discuss delegated authorities to board chair and staff to conduct Board business in between meetings.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Scruggs to delegate approval authority to Board staff for clean application. Applications with issues will still</p>	

	<p>need to come before the Board for review and final decision making. Seconded by Ms. Clark.</p> <p>Ms. Clark, Dr. Scruggs, and Dr. Hilliard voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1007-05	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>The Associate Director, Frank Meyers gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Health Regulation and Licensing Administration has undergone a realignment and that Ms. Ericka Walker is the new Executive Director for the Podiatry Board and she will be replacing Ms. Aisha Nixon. He further gave a brief professional background about Ms. Ericka Walker.</li> <li>➤ He thanked Ms. Aisha Nixon for working with the Podiatry Board.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Ericka Walker, the new Executive Director for the Podiatry Board introduced herself to the Board Members and provided the Board with her educational and professional background.</p> <p>Ms. Aisha Nixon thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to serve them in the capacity as their Executive Director and provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Informed the Board of DC Health’s operational status. DC Health remains closed to the public and the Board staff continues to work remotely.</li> <li>➤ The license renewal portal has been updated and several boards are currently renewing.</li> <li>➤ The new automated online application system will soon be launched.</li> <li>➤ The Board currently has 140 active licensees.</li> <li>➤ There have been new technological advancements within the agency to meet the current COVID-19 situations especially within the rodent control and restaurant inspections division of the agency.</li> <li>➤ She made mention the formation of an inter-professional workgroup within DC Health. She informed the Board that the aim of this group is to improve access to healthcare within the District. With the emergence of COVID-19 the group has decided to focus its efforts on telehealth.</li> </ul>	

	<p>➤ Lastly, she informed the Board that a subcommittee with representation from all of the Boards will convene to focus on drafting legislation regarding telehealth.</p>	
OS-1007-06	<p><b><u>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Ajay Gohil gave an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He has been assigned additional duties and responsibilities by serving as the interim legal counsel to several of the other Allied and Behavioral Boards.</li> <li>• He recommended that the Board consider revising its current regulations. He further indicated that it is best practice for Health Professional Boards to update their regulations every two to three years.</li> <li>• Regarding the regulation updates, he advised the Board to consider revising the face to face requirements component of its regulations to meet the current situation due to COVID-19.</li> <li>• He further sought clarifications from Board members to determine if Podiatrists can administer vaccines to patients.</li> <li>• He informed the Board that Ms. Panravee Vongjaroenrat, Assistant General Counsel has taken over the duty of working on the HORA updates.</li> </ul>	
OS-1007-07	<p><b><u>CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>No Report</p>	
OS-1007-08	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the July 15, 2020 Open Session Minutes.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Ms. Clark to approve the July 15, 2020 Open Session minutes. Seconded by Dr. Hilliard.</p> <p>Ms. Clark, Dr. Scruggs, and Dr. Hilliard voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1007-09	<p><b><u>PODIATRY SCHOOL ACCREDITATION FOR LICENSURE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b></p>	

	<p>Board to review and discuss section 6802 of the Podiatry regulations regarding applicants who apply to the Board for licensure that have not attended a Podiatry school accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> Ms. Aisha Nixon asked the Board to discuss whether applicants whose Podiatry schools are not accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) can be considered for licensure.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> No formal motion was made. The Board provided clarification regarding section 6802 of the regulations. All applicants for licensure in the District of Columbia must have attended and completed a Podiatry School accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME).</p>	
OS-1007-10	<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> <i>Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575B and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</i></p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Dr. Scruggs to close the open session meeting. Seconded by Dr. Hilliard.</p> <p>Ms. Clark, Dr. Scruggs, and Dr. Hilliard voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1007-11	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b></p>	

	<p>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 Dr. Scruggs to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dr. Hilliard.</p> <p>Ms. Clark, Dr. Scruggs, and Dr. Hilliard voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
--	--	--

**This ends the Open Session portion of the meeting.**

**The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2021.**

***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)***