

# BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

## MEETING MINUTES

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2023**

**10:00 AM – 2:00PM**

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### **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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Call to Order:**

OS-0915-01	<p><b><u>Roll Call:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Sherk – Chairperson-Present</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Board Staff:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LaTrice Herndon- Executive Director</li> <li>• Whitney Moore- Health Licensing Specialist</li> <li>• Panravee Vongjaroent – Assistant General Counsel</li> <li>• Angel Cruz-Assistant General Counsel</li> <li>• Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer</li> <li>• Leonard Howard – Board Investigator</li> <li>• Kera Johnson- Policy Analyst</li> </ul>	
OS-0915- 02	<p><b><u>Approval of the Agenda</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Acceptance of the September 15th Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to accept the July 15 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0915- 03	<p><b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Operational Status Update</b></li> <li>• <b>Licensure Census CAC1-86 CAC2-152 LGPC-400 LPC-1645</b></li> <li>• <b>Legislative Update:</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councilmember Robert White has reintroduced the <i>Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0055</a>), 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"> <li>○ The scholarship funds will pay for UDC tuition, academic costs such as books and supplies, a monthly stipend</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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 12<sup>th</sup>](#).

#### **Health Professional Compact Bills:**

- 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 Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants. The compact is not operational but is scheduled to start accepting applications in mid-2024.
  - The *Counseling Compact Approval Act of 2023* ([B25-0287](#)) would have the District join the Counseling Compact and applies to Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs).
- Additionally, Councilmember Frumin has introduced the *District of Columbia Nurse Licensure Compact Authorization Act of 2023* ([B25-0430](#)) which applies to Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs).
- DC Health is evaluating these bills and here will likely be hearings this fall.

#### **DC Health Director Appointment:**

- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser [announced](#) 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

	<p>Francisco Department of Public Health's Office of Health Equity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council will hold a hearing on the <i>Director of the Department of Health Dr. Ayanna Bennett Confirmation Resolution of 2023 (PR25-0290)</i>. The Committee on Health will hold a hearing on <a href="#">October 5<sup>th</sup></a> at 10AM to hear from the Director.</li> </ul> <p><b>Council Recess:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council returns to session today, September 15.</li> <li><b>DC HEALTH social media</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facebook: @dchealth</li> <li>Twitter: @_DcHealth</li> <li>TikTok: @dchealth</li> <li>Instagram: @dchealth</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Additional Updates</b></li> </ul>	
OS-0915-04	<p><b>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CA CMA Bill</li> </ul>	
OS-0915--05	<p><b>CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Report</li> </ul>	
OS-0915-06	<p><b><u>Open Session Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from July, 20 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to accept the minutes from July 20th,2023 Open Session Agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0915-07	<p><b><u>Upcoming Board Meeting Dates</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To determine in person Board Meetings for the upcoming FY24 Board Meetings.</p>	

**Background:**

All Board Meetings are now in a hybrid schedule that consist of in person and virtual meetings. Board members must discuss what meetings should in person.

**Motion:**

Motion made by Victoria Sherk to have the following meetings in person October, November, April, May, and June.. Seconded Victoria Shrek.

**Vote:**

Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OS-0915-08	<p><b><u>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>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to approve the open session consent agenda. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0721-09	<p><b><u>Motion to</u></b> <b><u>Close Board</u></b></p> <p><b><u>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</li> </ol>	

	<p>and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <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><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Victoria Sherk to close open session. Seconded Victoria Shrek.</p> <p><b><u>Vote:</u></b> Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>THIS SECTION IS FYI ONLY</u></b> <b><u>NO BOARD DECISION OR ACTION IS NEEDED</u></b></p>	
OS-FY1	<p><b><u>Supervised Practice Form</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Update:</u></b> Pending the subcommittee meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> 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 **October 20, 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](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).*