

MINUTES

South Carolina Massage Therapy/Bodywork Panel

10:00 A.M., November 7, 2003

Panel Meeting

Synergy Business Park

110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 108

Columbia, South Carolina

Carolyn Talley-Porter called the meeting of the Massage Therapy/Bodywork Panel to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members attending the meeting included: Kim Brewer, of Hilton Head; Toni Masters, of Greenville; and Linda Pearson, of Spartanburg.

Staff member participating at various times during the meeting included: Randall Bryant, Assistant Deputy Director; Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Larry Hall, Investigator; and Lisa Hawsey, Program Assistant.

Members of the public attending the meeting included: Sandi Russ, Mike Sutton.

Meeting Called to Order

Ms. Porter announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Massage Therapy/Bodywork Panel office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 108 and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. She noted that a quorum was present.

Introduction of Panel Members

Ms. Porter introduced the panel members and staff.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the March 13, 2003 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Ms. Pearson moved the Panel approve the minutes as presented. The minutes were approved as presented.

Update from Larry Hall, Staff Investigator

Mr. Hall stated he is currently working five open complaints. He further stated he has issued several cease and desist orders. He noted that most of the complaints involve advertising as massage therapy businesses and the businesses are not properly license. He is working with law enforcement on a complaint in Greenwood.

Executive Session

MOTION

Ms. Brewer moved to enter executive session. Masters seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Ms. Pearson moved the Panel return to public session. Ms. Masters seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Porter noted for the record that no motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Chairman's Remarks - Carolyn Porter

Ms. Porter made no remarks at this time.

Assistant Deputy Director's Remarks - Randall Bryant

Mr. Bryant made no remarks at this time.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to be discussed during the November 7, 2003 meeting.

New Business

1. Discussion of Interpretations

Ms. Porter stated the panel worked on the interpretations for over one year. She further stated a survey had been conducted and noted that 99 individuals responded. She noted that the interpretations were completed based on the responses received.

Ms. Porter noted that the interpretations are not the law and can be changed.

Ms. Sandi Russ, of the American Massage Therapy Association, questioned the Panel regarding clarification of the interpretations, including legislation involving insurance, continuing education, the use of vibrators during a massage, advertising in the yellow pages, breast massages, TMJ massages, and equine massages. It was noted the Board of Veterinary Medicine would oppose any legislation regarding massage therapists being allowed to massage animals. The panel advised Ms. Russ that an individual must contact the Board of Veterinary Medicine regarding individual veterinarians requesting massages for animals. It was suggested that the panel mail a letter to the 160 outlets of the yellow pages in South Carolina and inform them of the advertising requirements for massage therapists.

Mr. Bryant stated the Panel has provided a guideline for staff regarding the fines. He indicated a fine could be appealed.

2. Discussion on Massage Therapist with Disabilities

Mr. Mike Sutton, of the S.C. Commission for the Blind, spoke regarding blind massage therapists being exempt from taking the national exam. He indicated the Commission for the Blind is against the blind massage therapists being exempt from taking the national

exam. He indicated the commission has alternate avenues of educating the blind to take the exam.

Mr. Sutton stated David Bundy, of the S.C. Commission for the Blind, is available to make the website available to the blind. The Commission for the Blind is also available to assist in making the publications available to the blind.

3. Discussion on Accreditation of Massage Therapy Schools

This matter will be discussed at the next meeting as Ms. Eshelman was unable to attend the November 7, 2003 meeting.

4. Recognize Renea Eshelman with Commission on Higher Education

This matter will be discussed at the next meeting as Ms. Eshelman was unable to attend the November 7, 2003 meeting.

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items discussed during the November 7, 2003 meeting.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the November 7, 2003 meeting.

Adjournment

There being further business to be discussed at this time, Ms. Brewer moved the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Pearson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:33 P.M.