

**South Carolina Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel Meeting**  
**February 9, 2018, 10:00 a.m.**  
**110 Centerview Drive**  
**Synergy Business Park**  
**Kingstree Building, Conference Room 105**  
**Columbia, South Carolina 29210**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

- a. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building 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.
- b. Rules of the Meeting
- c. Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Introduction of Panel Members and All Other Persons Attending**

Chairperson Janet Shaw called the meeting of the S.C. Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel to order. Other Panel members participating in the meeting included:

- ❖ Anthony Ruggiero
- ❖ Denise Van Nostran
- ❖ Jennifer Griffitt

**Staff members present included:** Georgia Lewis, Advice Counsel; Shalon Genwright, Staff; Theresa Brown, Administrator; Megan Flannery, Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Sharon Wolfe, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Kathy Meadows, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Eric Thompson, Office of Investigations and Enforcement

**3. Approval of Excused Absences**

Mr. Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the absences of Ms. Mary Kelley and Ms. Jenny Vaughn due to sickness. The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran and it carried.

**4. Approval of the Minutes for the Following Meeting:**

September 22, 2017

Ms. Denise Van Nostran made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 22, 2017, and it was seconded by Ms. Jennifer Griffitt. The motion carried.

November 3, 2017

Ms. Van Nostran made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 3, 2017, and it was seconded by Ms. Griffitt. The motion carried.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Ruggiero made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda and it was seconded by Ms. Griffitt. The motion carried.

**6. Chairperson's Remarks – Janet Shaw –** There was a lot of business to be taken care of at the meeting as some of the Panel members were on time constraints. The goal was to move through the meeting fairly quickly.

**7. Administrator's Remarks – Theresa Brown**

- a. Budget – For Information
- b. IRC Report – Sharon Wolfe – For Approval – Mr. Ruggiero made a motion to approve the IRC report for January 29<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran and it carried.
- c. OIE Report – Sharon Wolfe – For Information Only – On last year, there were a total of 50 incoming cases and 35 cases have been closed. This year, through February 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 complaints were received and 3 cases have been closed.
- d. ODC Report – Megan Flannery – For Information Only – There are currently 6 open cases, where 4 are in process pending action. There is 1 case pending a hearing and another case is in appeals.
- e. Update to the Task Force Recommendations of Massage Panel Establishment License – The Board

Administrator, Ms. Theresa Brown, stated that things are going well and there has been two meetings where there was discussion on possible establishment licensing. They will continue to review legislation from other states. There are no recommendations for the Panel at this time. Chairperson Shaw stated that the meetings are public and everyone is asked to attend. Upcoming meetings will be scheduled soon.

## 8. New Business

### a. Consideration of Licensure

#### i. Elizabeth Copenhaver

Ms. Copenhaver was previously licensed in South Carolina and her license lapsed on June 30, 2010. The license became ineligible for reinstatement and continuing education classes on June 30, 2014. It has been a longstanding policy of the Panel that once the license becomes void, the applicant must pass the entry examination back into the profession. Ms. Copenhaver stopped practicing massage because of medical and financial reasons. She would like to get back into the profession as it has always been a passion of hers and she enjoys helping people through massage therapy. She asks that the Panel allow her to use the credentials that she already has without having to take the MBLEx. Ms. Copenhaver applied for a new license as she felt that she met the requirements. She did pass the national certification examination when she initially became licensed, but has not taken any continuing education in years.

Mr. Ruggiero made a motion to go into an executive session to garner legal advice on the matter and it was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruggiero to come out of the executive session and it was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran. The motion carried. There were no motions made or votes taken during the executive session.

A motion was made by Ms. Van Nostran that Ms. Elizabeth Copenhaver be allowed licensure as a new licensee with the following specific provisions of obtaining 12 continuing education hours by June 30, 2018, with the requirement of 6 of those hours being hands-on, live skill enhancement courses. They recommend all 12 hours be hands-on courses. Documentation of the courses must be submitted to the Board Administrator. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jennifer Griffitt and it carried. Ms. Copenhaver will be licensed immediately.

#### ii. Sandra Paradis

Ms. Paradis was seeking approval of licensure, but had no proof of having completed 500 clock hours in a massage program. She attended school in 1992, but the school is now closed. She is currently licensed in New Jersey and passed the MBLEx in 2014. Ms. Paradis has been practicing massage for 24 years.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruggiero to approve licensure for Ms. Sandra Paradis based on reciprocity. The Panel was interested in seeing her résumé, so the motion was withdrawn and a motion was made by Mr. Ruggiero to go into an executive session to garner legal advice on the matter and review the résumé provided to the Panel. The motion was seconded by Ms. Griffitt and it carried.

Mr. Ruggiero made a motion to come out of the executive session and it was seconded by Ms. Griffitt. The motion carried.

Ms. Van Nostran made the motion to continue this matter at the next Panel meeting and that Ms. Sandra Paradis contact the state of New Jersey for additional official documentation specifying how they determined that the 500 clock hours were fulfilled. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ruggiero and it carried. The documentation must be sent to the Board Administrator to be heard at the next Panel meeting.

iii. Mary Stenhouse

Ms. Stenhouse completed a 250 hour program and is currently licensed in the state of California. She recently passed the MBLEX on February 7, 2018. She brought letters of recommendation to give to the Panel members. Ms. Stenhouse is a personal trainer and specializes in orthopedic massage and rehabilitative training. She has also taken several modalities. She also holds a Master's degree in education from Clemson University. She is originally from Greenville and has just moved back to South Carolina to be closer to her family.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruggiero to go into an executive session to garner legal advice in this matter and it was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran. The motion carried.

Ms. Griffith made a motion to come out of the executive session and it was seconded by Ms. Van Nostran. The motion carried. There were no motions made or votes taken during the executive session.

Ms. Van Nostran made the motion in the matter of Ms. Mary Stenhouse that in spite of the extensive education, she does not meet the 500 clock hours of education. The motion is to deny licensure at this time and it was seconded by Mr. Ruggiero. The motion carried. The Panel cannot get around the 500 clock hour requirement.

The Panel will have to reschedule the attendees listed on the agenda as they will no longer have a quorum to continue the meeting. They appreciated everyone being there and plan on scheduling another meeting very soon. That meeting will happen prior to the next quarterly meeting. Each attendee will be notified.

iv. Faith Young

This matter will be continued at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

v. Wen Xu

This matter will be continued at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

vi. Ketoya Monero

This matter will be continued at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

vii. Cai Fen Zhou

This matter will be continued at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

viii. Lingdi Ge

This matter will be continued at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

**b. Statement of Economic Interest**

This item will be discussed at a special called meeting to be conducted prior to the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

**c. Hearings – Megan Flannery**

i. 2015-34

This hearing will be continued at the May 18, 2018, Panel meeting.

## **9. Public Comments**

During the public comments, persons that were left on the agenda asked questions about the planning of the next meeting.

## **10. Discussion**

There was no discussion.

## **11. Adjournment**

Mr. Ruggiero made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Ms. Griffitt. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

**The next meeting of the SC Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel is scheduled for May 18, 2018.**