



SC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION

South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry

Post Office Box 11329 Columbia, SC 29211

803-896-4681 FAX: 803-896-4719

Minutes of the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry

January 28, 2007

Embassy Suites, Columbia, South Carolina

Board Members Present:

Daniel B. Gosnell, Chairman
C. Milton Corley, Jr., Vice Chairman
Ray A. Sansbury
Leonard B. Harrington
William M. Whitlock
Debra L. Johnson Austin, Ph.D., Public Member

Also present: George Lee, South Carolina Association of Opticians

SCLLR Staff Present: Angela M. Combs, Board Administrator
Janice D. Meetze, Administrative Assistant

The regular session of the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry was held on January 28, 2007, Embassy Suites, Room 530, Columbia, South Carolina. Whereas, proper notice of date, time, place having been properly provided to THE STATE NEWSPAPER and ASSOCIATED PRESS and proper notice also having been posted at the LLR Office Building 24 hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting and a quorum having been determined, Chairman Gosnell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve the December 6, 2006 minutes as written. The motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Chairman Gosnell welcomed all present and reserved further remarks for within the context of the meeting.

REPORTS / INFORMATION: In the administrative report, Ms. Combs reported licensee totals to be 466 licensed opticians and 180 licensed contact lens dispensers for a total of 646 licensees; there are 74 currently registered apprentices. The financial report is available upon request.

REPORTS / INFORMATION *continued*

Ms. Combs reported 15 candidates passed and 13 candidates failed the *S.C. Practical Examination* administered December 6, 2006, i.e., 12 failed the lensometer section, 4 failed prescription interpretation, and 5 failed frame fitting / lens measure. Five unsuccessful candidates requested through the Board office an examination review. An unsuccessful candidate is allowed to review his/her examination; the candidate is not permitted to ask questions or take notes.

Ms. Combs announced the *Statement of Economic Interests Form* is due April 16, 2007. Reportable per diem income amounts will be provided to each member; a reminder will be issued as the deadline approaches.

Ms. Combs reported the Board will be kept updated on the Optometry Board Regulation Legislation.

APPEARENCE REQUESTED - Lack of proper license coverage and enforcement: On behalf of the South Carolina Association of Opticians, Mr. George Lee requested an audience with the Board to address a mounting concern over optical shops that continually operate without proper license coverage and for the lack of enforcement of the current laws that require coverage. On behalf of the South Carolina Association of Opticians, Mr. Lee will submit a letter to LLR expressing these concerns.

Mr. Lee departed the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Definition of Dispensing Contact Lenses – Review Board Position Statement: The Position Statement concerning the definition of dispensing was presented to the Board for review. A draft Position Statement was previously reviewed at the December 6, 2006 Board meeting; a request was made that Ms. Dantzler revise the language.

Motion: A motion was made the Board accept the language in the Position Statement Definition of Dispensing as presented today. The motion received a second. The motion carried. A copy of the Board Position Statement is included as part of the minutes.

Guideline for Reinstatement – Appearance before the Board when license has lapsed for more than two years: Ms. Combs requested guidelines for requests to reinstate lapsed licenses. Section 40-38-260 states: “If the license or registration has been lapsed for more than two years, the person shall appear before the board, which shall determine if the license or registration should be reinstated and the terms under which the reinstatement is to be made.” Ms. Dantzler has advised that “appearance” does not necessarily mean physically standing before the Board. Discussion followed. **Motion:** Mr. Harrington made a motion the Board requires those seeking reinstatement after a license has lapsed past two years that a physical appearance before the Board would be required. The motion received a second. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Apprenticeship Formal Education Requirement – Apprenticeships dated prior to formal education requirement (March 2003): Chairman Gosnell asked the Board’s opinion as to setting a limit on the number of years “grandfathered apprentices” would be exempt from the March 1, 2003 formal educational requirement. Discussion followed. The Board concurred that when an apprentice registration does lapse for any reason the formal educational component effective March 1, 2003 would be required.

Application Review – Registered Apprentice/Licensed Optician: Ms. Combs, Mr. Sansbury, and Ms. Dantzler reviewed and revised the Registered Apprenticeship Training in Ophthalmic Dispensing and the South Carolina Practical Examination and Licensure Applications to clearly state the prerequisites that an apprentice must successfully complete to be eligible to sit for the S.C. Practical Examination in Opticianry. **Motion:** A motion was made to accept the Registered Apprenticeship Training in Ophthalmic Dispensing and the South Carolina Practical Examination and Licensure Applications, as amended. The motion received a second. The motion carried.

Board Members Election in 2007: Two Board member terms currently being held by C. Milton Corley, Jr. and Ray A. Sansbury will expire on September 13, 2007. A notice of Board terms expiring and upcoming elections to be mailed to all currently licensed opticians. To nominate an optician for election a written petition must be signed by not less than ten South Carolina licensed opticians qualified to vote in the election.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next general Board meeting will be held May 6, 2007, Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

The election of Board member *officers* will be held at the June 7, 2007 Board meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Gosnell adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie M. Combs
Administrator