

OPEN SESSION MINUTES
MARYLAND BOARD OF NURSING
DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

On a motion made by Jan Kriebs, seconded by Dr. Michael Fox, and unanimously voted, the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee meeting held on September 14, 2018 was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Vice Chairperson, Elizabeth Reiner. Also present at the meeting were: Julia Perkins, Jessica Watkins, Karen Webster, Monica Mentzer, Shirley Devaris, Elisa Waller, Lindsey Snyder, AAG, Michael Conti, AAG, and Ann Tyminski. Absent: Kai Parker, Chairperson. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 10, 2018 meeting were reviewed including the definition of abandonment. On a motion made by Dr. Fox, seconded by Jessica Watkins, the minutes were approved with the addition of "licensed direct-entry" before "midwife".

Revised Code of Ethics

On a motion made, seconded and unanimously voted, the Committee approved the revised Code of Ethics. The Committee requested Ms. Devaris to seek the approval of the Board to process the Code of Ethics.

Application

The application of Rebecca R. Banks for licensure as a Direct-Entry Midwife was reviewed. Ms. Devaris suggested that the application include a question as to whether an applicant is or was ever licensed in another state. Ms. Kriebs moved and the motion was seconded and voted unanimously that the application include the question on future applications. After review, a motion was made to recommend to the Board of Nursing that Rebecca R. Banks be approved for licensure. That motion was seconded and unanimously voted. Ms. Banks application will be placed on the Board of Nursing's agenda for September 26, 2018.

Data Collection

Mrs. Tyminski submitted a proposed e-mail to be sent out to all licensed direct-entry midwives. The e-mail will remind those licensees that the data collection form is due in the advanced practice department no later than October 1, 2018.

Mr. Conti outlined for the Committee the dates that apply to the submission of the data collection form. Data Collection forms are due in the Advanced Practice Department by October 1, 2018. The Committee will review the forms and tabulate the information at its October 12 meeting. By November 1, the Board of Nursing should have received the Committee's report. Therefore, the report will have to be well documented at the October 12 meeting of the Committee. On December 1 a report is due to the Legislature from the Maryland Board of Nursing to include all information compiled from the data collection forms, any recommendations regarding expanding the scope of practice of licensed direct-entry midwives; and any recommendations, including recommendations for legislation, regarding the scope of practice of licensed direct-entry midwives to include vaginal birth after

caesarian delivery. Further, Mr. Conti requested that all Committee members review their Practice Act and Regulations regarding this report prior to their October 12 meeting and to bring their ideas for the report to that meeting. Ms. Webster does not have a copy of the Practice Act and Regulations. Mrs. Tyminski will provide that information to her.

Discussion Topics

Ms. Webster and Ms. Reiner had placed certain discussion items on the agenda. Ms. Devaris was present to help out in the discussion. The first item was the question of whether DEMs will have online access to file birth certificate information. Ms. Devaris explained that the DEMs are one of the authorized professions for access to online registration. However, Vital Statistics may have some problems implementing the availability to online access. She suggested that the association that represents direct-entry midwives (AIM) may wish to contact Vital Statistics about this matter.

The next discussion item was whether or not the affidavit of paternity forms need to be notarized prior to submission to Vital Statistics. This form is required when the parents are unmarried. Consumers complain about this. It was suggested this question be referred to Vital Statistics via AIM.

Ms. Webster suggested that a kit be prepared to send out to newly licensed DEMs. The intention of the kit would be to inform new licensees of their responsibilities. It was pointed out that each new licensee receives a new licensee letter that outlines the responsibilities of licensure and includes a copy of the Practice Act and Regulations relating to the practice of direct-entry midwifery. It was suggested perhaps the Committee could prepare a checklist. Ms. Parker and Ms. Reiner will work on such a list.

Ms. Reiner raised several questions about what student midwives are allowed to do. The Committee was referred to the Practice Act and Regulations by Mr. Conti. Ms. Reiner is particularly concerned about the students who are obtaining their education outside of the pre-approved MEAC program. She was particularly interested in the preceptorship of students and asked whether that type of educational experience is appropriate. Michael Conti said the question is whether the program in which the student is a participant is adequate to allow a person to be preceptored in Maryland. Title 8-6-13 (b) (2) *Certification and clinical requirements* states, "(i) Shall have completed a midwifery education program that is accredited by MEAC or ACME." Therefore, if a student is not participating in a clinically-approved program, they cannot be preceptored in Maryland. Ms. Reiner appreciates the clarification.

Application on Hold

In response to a question regarding an application that is currently on hold, Mr. Conti's update is that the process remains ongoing. The next step is that soon the matter will be presented to the Board of Nursing, and the Board will decide the outcome. He further said the process for the direct-entry midwives is if an application is received and there is anything questionable, it may be forwarded to the Investigation Department. The Investigation Department will investigate the matter and issue a Report of Investigation (ROI) that is thoroughly reviewed by a Committee of Board members. That Committee's recommendation will then be forwarded to the full Board. The full Board has access to all information collected. The Board can then decide on the following courses of action: (1) Take no action; (2) Choose to pursue charges which could include Intent to Deny Licensure. The Board has full discretion in the matter. Mr. Conti further outlined the process for disciplinary actions including the fact that the

issuance of a license may not be denied outright. On this specific issue there will probably be a resolution very shortly.

Ms. Reiner commented that a person pays a fee of \$900 and may be held up for licensure for a long time, and it does not seem fair. Mr. Conti said that the process is often lengthy.

Title 86 C-12

The Committee was requested to review Title 8-6C-12, particularly subsection C, that discusses reports and be familiar with the reporting requirements. They are to come to the October meeting with recommendations that relate to those topics. Mrs. Tyminski will send out a reminder e-mail to Committee members.

Adjournment

A motion to close the open session was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to close the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be October 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM in the Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Tyminski, Administrator
Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee

