NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NYSED) STATE BOARD FOR NURSING (BON)

Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 23, 2025 11:00 am- 12:30 pm

Members present: Edmund J.Y. Pajarillo, RN, Chair; Deborah Stamps, RN, Vice Chair; Jamesetta Newland, RN, Member at Large; Edonn Ball, RN; Sherley John, RN; Frances Iacobellis, RN; Ralph Derrico, RN; Maria Vezina, RN; Heidi Mix, RN; Dustin Ross, RN; Sally Dreslin, RN; Gwendolyn Lewis, RN; and Wayne Chan, RN

Members excused: Samantha De Los Santos, Public Member

State Education Department Staff present: Suzanne Sullivan, RN, Executive Secretary; Renee Gecsedi, RN, Associate in Nursing Education; Eileen Avery, RN, Associate in Nursing Education, Heidi Weinman, Secretary

Guest Observers: Jeanine Santelli, ANA-NY Executive Director; Edie Brous; Caitlin Anderson, Harter Seacrest & Emery

Call to Order and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 11 AM. The approval of the June 2024 BON meeting minutes was deferred due to lack of quorum.

News and Reports/Announcements:

Edmund Pajarillo described his experiences attending the 2024 NCSBN Annual Meeting including discussions among state representatives on multistate licensure compacts.

Ms. Sullivan thanked Samantha De Los Santos and Frances lacobellis for their service as BON members. She expressed appreciation for Ms. lacobellis' outstanding leadership on the BON's Education Committee and her efforts to advance and improve nursing education in New York State.

Ms. Sullivan described health care related provisions in the New York State 2026 fiscal year budget bills. She described a bill that would allow certified nurse aides to administer medications to nursing home residents under the supervision of a nurse. Ms. Sullivan also noted that the Nurse Licensure Compact was included in the budget, and that the BON has not been asked to opine on the nurse licensure compacts. She described a bill that would allow psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners a greater role in examination and certifying patients who require involuntary care in psychiatric hospitals. Ms. Sullivan also updated BON Members on a CRNA licensure bill.

Committee Reports:

Education, License and Practice Committee

On behalf of the Practice and the Education and License Committees, Ms. Sullivan described committee member input on the draft guidance documents for LPNs who provide IV therapy. She noted that members identified areas for improvement but found the guidance to be based on sound practice principles.

Professional Conduct Committee

Edonn Ball, Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee, briefly described the new Psychiatric Mental Health NP certification examination offered by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). Ms. Ball stated that committee members compared this certification examination with the Psychiatric NP certification examination accepted by NYSED for the purposes of NP licensure. Ms. Ball also noted that some committee members will follow up with nurse educators, nurse program directors and the National Council of Accreditation for insight on the differences between the exams and why hospitals may not be accepting the AANP certification exam.

Discussion of New York's Open Meeting Law, BON Guidelines, and New Initiatives

Ms. Sullivan described New York's Open Meetings Law, which allows the public to observe (but not necessarily participate in) meetings of New York government bodies (including the BON). She explained that in order to conduct business, a "quorum" of members must be "present." To achieve a quorum at a BON meeting, at least 9 voting BON members must be physically "present" at a BON meeting or participate in the BON meeting by video teleconference at a location that is open to the public. She further noted that public location(s) for the meeting must be publicly disclosed at least a week in advance of the meeting. She stated that participation in a BON meeting by Webex from a non-public location does not count towards quorum. Ms. Sullivan suggested a quorum is needed for at least two of the four scheduled BON meetings each year. A discussion of Open Meetings Law and quorum requirements ensued.

BON Members briefly discussed the BON Guidelines. Ms. Sullivan encouraged BON Members to provide her with suggestions relating to the BON Guidelines by January 31, 2025. Ms. Sullivan asked BON Members for input on topics or speakers for future BON meetings. BON Members suggested that the BON address current nursing workforce retention challenges and solutions to these challenges. Some BON Members identified workplace violence as a serious concern. Some BON Members noted that the BON should focus on initiatives that improve nursing retention, such as programs that support a nurses' mental health. One BON Member questioned the need for practical nursing program faculty to have a master's degree. Ms. Sullivan agreed to report on this topic at the next BON meeting. Another BON Member encouraged BON Members participate in NCSBN sponsored initiatives and meetings.

Discussion of Guidance for LPNs who Provide IV Therapy

BON Members agreed that it is critically important that all LPNs complete IV training before providing IV therapy services to patients. They discussed the reasons for updating written BON guidance for LPNs who provide IV therapy. BON Members reviewed and commented on the draft documents entitled "New York State Board for Nursing Guidance for LPNs who provide IV Therapy" and "The Practice of IV Therapy by Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) Essential Course Content." BON Members emphasized the need for IV therapy training to be based on evidenced based research of clinical practice standards, as well as applicable New York State laws.

Discussion of a New Nurse Practitioner Certification

Ms. Sullivan asked for input regarding the Psychiatric Mental Health NP certification examination (across the lifespan) offered by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). BON Members agreed to table discussions until after the Professional Conduct Committee had an opportunity to do more investigation.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm.