



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

State Board for Acupuncture
Tel. (518) 474-3817 ext. 100
Fax (518) 473-0532
E-mail: acupbd@nysed.gov

State Board for Acupuncture
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2024
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1411 Broadway, New York
89 Washington Avenue, Albany
85 Allen Street, Rochester
via WebEx

Board Members in Attendance:

Kevin Ergil, Chair
Danett Bean
Yap Kokwai

Russell Kordas
James Shinol

Board Staff Members in Attendance:

Kimberley Anderson
Christina Amato
Kellie Murphy

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:00.

Amato provided travel reimbursement information and showed Board Members how to gain access to the Sharepoint site.

Murphy briefed the Board on license statistics and education program updates. Shared the change in Administration within the Office of the Profession with David Hamilton serving as the Deputy Commissioner and Owen Donovan serving as Assistant Deputy Commissioner.

Murphy also shared the opportunity to participate in a New Board Member Disciplinary Training Seminar and that the Board is in need of new members including a minimum of an Acupuncturist, two licensed Physicians certified to use Acupuncture and three public members.

The Board elected a new Chair as Ergil will be completing his term at the end of June. The Board nominated and voted to appoint James Shinol as the new Board Chair.

A presentation on Professions Connections and the website was provided to the Board. The presentation included information on how the Department is engaging with stakeholders to raise awareness of the licensed professions and a portion of the website regarding Career Paths was reviewed and Board Members had the opportunity to provide feedback.

A discussion was had regarding the most frequent questions the Board Office receives and includes topics on microneedling, thread embedding acupuncture, and battlefield acupuncture.

Several topics were discussed during open discussion including the use of Acupuncture Assistants; Battlefield Acupuncture; others use of dry needling; and workforce issues. The Board agreed that further policy statements should be developed to protect the public and will continue to work on these with a formal discussion planned for the next meeting.

The Board recommended the Office gather more information regarding licensees and who is actively practicing and whether it is full-time or part-time to get a better depiction of workforce needs.

Ergil provided background information on the requirements for an individual to practice Battlefield Acupuncture when treating substance abuse or chemical dependency.

Ergil also provided background on Acupuncture Apprenticeship programs and their use. These are not typical apprenticeship programs as they are most commonly used for those who have already completed an education program and need to make up requirements for licensure in a given state. The reference to tutorial apprenticeships in Education Law, may be a hold over from when the profession was initially created in New York State as the Board Members are not aware of apprenticeship programs in New York State.

Prior to adjournment the Board agreed to two future meetings: September 16, 2024, and February 10, 2025.

Murphy thanked Ergil for his terms of service and shared well wishes as this will be the Chair's final meeting.

The meeting was adjourned around 3:00pm. The Board will reconvene on September 16, 2024.