

Physician Assistant Committee

MINUTES

November 5, 2009

2005 Evergreen Street, Hearing Room
Sacramento, California 95815

9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order by Chairman

Chairman Klompus called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Staff called the roll. A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Steve Klompus, PA
Cristina Gomez-Vidal Diaz
Shaquawn D. Schasa
Steven Stumpf, Ph.D.
Shelia Young

Committee Members absent Rosslynn Byous, PA
Reginald Low, M.D.

Staff Present: Elberta Portman, Executive Officer
Claire Yazigi, Staff Counsel, Dept. of Consumer Affairs
Laura Freedman Eidson, Staff Counsel, Dept. of
Consumer Affairs
Dianne Tincher, Enforcement Analyst
Glenn Mitchell, Regulation and Lead Licensing Analyst
Lynn Forsyth, Analyst
Linda Bronson, Licensing MST

Committee Member Steven Stumpf, Ph.D., arrived at 9:50 a.m.

3. Approval of minutes of August 13, 2009 meeting

The August 13, 2009 minutes were approved with no amendments.
(m/Young, s/Schasa, c/all)

4. Reports

a. Chair's Report

In recognition of Veterans Day, Chairman Klompus dedicated the November 5, 2009 meeting to veterans from the Vietnam War who became the first physician assistants when the profession was first established. Chairman Klompus also recognized and thanked physician assistants currently serving in the armed forces.

b. Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Portman reported to the Committee that the Department of Consumer Affairs is working with all boards to improve the enforcement process and to increase transparency and awareness of enforcement actions.

Ms. Portman also reported that DCA is working with the committee to develop an on-line renewal system to allow licensees to renew via this system or by mail.

Ms. Portman reported that changes were made to the current application and licensing process to allow initial applicants to submit both the application fee and licensing fee at the same time, thus saving staff time in processing and cashiering the checks. Ms. Portman reported that Linda Bronson had worked diligently in October and issued 92 licenses.

Ms. Portman reported that "Primary Source" information was added to the website to allow license verifications to be made using our website data.

Ms. Portman also reported on various enhancements to the website, including adding to the website a flowchart detailing the disciplinary process and a copy of the Disciplinary Guidelines. Ms. Portman also reported that a consumer satisfaction survey has been added to the website.

c. Licensing Program - Report

Mr. Mitchell stated that between July 1, 2009 and October 1, 2009, 182 licenses were issued and 16 interim approvals were issued. As of October 1, 2009, 7,337 licenses are renewed and current, and there are a total of 157 California approved training programs.

d. Diversion Program - Report

Mr. Mitchell stated that as of October 1, 2009, The Diversion Program has 22 participants, 7 of whom are voluntary participants and 15 are Committee referrals. There have been 90 participants since program implementation in 1990.

e. Enforcement Program - Report

Ms. Tincher stated that between July 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009, there were 90 pending complaints, 78 pending investigations, 44 current probationers and 25 pending cases at the Office of the Attorney General.

5. 10:00 AM - Hearing

Petition for early termination of probation – Gregory Hadfield

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Section 11126(c) (3) of the Government Code, the Committee moved into closed session to deliberate the petition for termination of probation.

6. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Section 11126(c)(3) of the Government Code, the Committee moved into closed session to deliberate on disciplinary matters.

7. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Section 11126(e)(2)(A) of the Government Code, the Committee moved into closed session to discuss pending litigation. (*McCartney v. Physician Assistant Committee, Sacramento Superior Court, Case No.06CS01440*)

8. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Section 11126(a) (1) of the Government Code, the Committee moved into closed session to conduct the annual evaluation of the Executive Officer

9. Ethics Training for Committee members and staff

Staff Counsel Claire Yazigi and Staff Counsel Laura Freedman conducted ethics training for the staff and members, to address ethical responsibilities of committee members.

10. Discussion and approval of proposed language for Diversion Program participation fee

Following a brief discussion, draft regulations were presented to the Committee for approval, which included charging Board referrals 100% of the fees and self referrals 75% of the fees. Prior to the vote, a request was received to revisit the impact of these fees on the budget and participants one year after the change has been implemented. A motion was made to approve the draft language and set it for a regulatory hearing.
(m/Young, s/Schasa, c/all)

11. Discussion and approval of mail ballot policy for disciplinary cases

Ms. Freedman discussed the new mail ballot policy and after discussion a motion was made to include the proposed language in the mail ballot and simplify the form layout so that comments could be made more easily.

Committee member Shelia Young requested that the electronic copy of the mail ballots have fields if possible.

(m/Diaz, s/Young, c/all)

12. Report on proposed enhancements and changes to the Committee's Enforcement Program

Ms. Portman reported that the Department of Consumer Affairs is working on enhancements to the Committee's enforcement process, in order to provide greater public protection and efficiencies.

13. Nomination and election of Physician Assistant Committee officers

Ms. Young made a motion to nominate Steven Klompus as Chairperson. Motion was carried to elect Mr. Klompus as Chairman for 2010.
(m/Young, s/Diaz, c/all)

Ms. Schasa made a motion was made to nominate Shelia Young as Vice-Chairperson. Motion was carried to elect Ms. Young as Vice-Chairperson for 2010.
(m/Schasa, s/Diaz, c/all)

14. Approval of passing score for PA initial licensing examinations and 2010 dates and locations for PA initial licensing examination

Ms. Portman noted that the Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Professional Examination Services has reviewed the licensing test criteria information and deemed that it was sufficient for Committee members to make a decision regarding approval of the examination scores. Discussion ensued and a motion was made and seconded to approve the licensing examinations scores and exam site locations for 2010.
(m/Diaz, s/Stumpf, c/all)

15. Pending legislation of interest to the Committee

AB 120, AB 356, AB 1310, SB 43, SB 171, SB 374, SB 389, SB 599, SB 638, SB 819, SB 820, SB 294

Chairman Klompus provided the Committee with an update on the status of the above mentioned bills. Mr. Klompus also informed the Committee that the department's Omnibus Bill was signed by the Governor. Included in that bill was the elimination of the Committee's interim approval process beginning January 1, 2010.

16. Discussion of proposed language regarding program accreditation regulations, currently sections 1399.530 through 1399.536 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations

Ms. Yagizi explained that the proposed language would restructure existing language, but would not eliminate the Committee's authority to approve programs. Discussion ensued and it was determined that more information regarding the topic would be provided at the upcoming Teleconference Meeting on November 16.

17. Review and adoption of the Committee's Strategic Plan

Following a brief discussion, the Committee adopted the Committee's Strategic Plan.
(m/Young, s/Diaz, c/all)

18. Schedule meeting dates and locations for 2010

The following dates were approved for 2010:

February 18, 2010

May 20, 2010

July 26, 2010 (This meeting is being held in conjunction with the Department of Consumer Affairs Next Practices meeting being held on July 27, 2010).

October 28, 2010

All meetings will take place in Sacramento.

19. Agenda items for next meeting

1. Presentation on the Diversion Program by the program's clinical case manager
2. Program Accreditation Task Force Report
3. Enforcement Model Update
4. Discussion to change the Physician Assistant Committee name to Physician Assistant Board

20. Public comment on items not on the agenda

No public comment was received

21. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.