



Advisory Group on Continuing Education (CE) Meeting Minutes March 19, 2021

Members Attending: Daniel Lehmann, Board Member, Chair (joined meeting at 10:52 a.m.); Kelli Schweitzer; Board member, Chair; Lisa Hachey; Terry Pope, Deborah Hartzell; Jane Mahowald; Stephanie Clubbs; Melanie Morris; Deborah Shields

Members Absent: Janet Winterstein; Nancy Lopiccolo; Angela Thompson; Lucinda Cave

Staff Attending: Lisa Emrich; Anita DiPasquale; Chantelle Sunderman

Guests Attending: Donald Oliva, CE Broker, Lisanne Bright, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities; Gordon Kirkendall, Omnicare Northwest Ohio Continuing Education Program

Call to Order

Lisa Emrich called the meeting of the Advisory Group on Continuing Education to order at 10:11 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. The meeting was held virtually in accordance with the Open Meetings Act as amended by HB 404. The September 2019 minutes were provided to the Advisory Group.

Guest Presentation: Donald Oliva, CE Broker

L. Emrich introduced Donald Oliva from CE Broker, a company that tracks the continuing education (CE) courses taken by health care practitioners. Donald Oliva provided a presentation to the Advisory Group.

Members discussed the Advisory Group's prior presentations and reviews of CE Broker. Melanie Morris asked why this was being reviewed again, when the Advisory Group previously did not recommend its use. L. Emrich stated the Advisory Groups hear from entities providing information that may affect or be related to the Board's regulatory role. Although the Advisory Group heard from CE Broker in the past, circumstances and the information may change over time.

Discussion ensued regarding the information that must be provided to CE Brokers by CE providers; all the information is not always collected by CE providers. Terry Pope stated that if the information is not available, she does not believe that CE Broker would be beneficial. The Advisory Group did not recommend CE Broker at this time.

Rules for Five Year Review and Updates

L. Emrich stated a change to Rule 4723-14-03, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) became effective February 1, 2021. It removes the requirement to submit documentation of CEs with the reinstatement application, but applicants must still attest that they completed the required CEs. These applicants would be subject to a CE audit by the Board. The Board is considering similar language regarding other applications.

CE Topic Consideration: Recognizing Sexual Trauma

The Advisory Group discussed that it has refrained from recommending mandatory CE content in the past, as each licensee is expected to complete CE specific to their practice needs. The Advisory Group agreed that Recognizing Sexual Trauma is important CE content but agreed by general consensus not to recommend mandating CE in Recognizing Sexual Trauma at this time.

OBN Approver Annual Reports

The Annual Reports from OBN Approvers of CE were due on March 15, 2021. The information is used to keep public documents updated with correct course topic offerings and contact information. The Advisory Group discussed creating a list of approved providers to be published on the Board website. Kelli Schweitzer and Deborah Hartzell stated that it is not possible for a list to accurately reflect all providers of CE, noting that they change frequently.

OB Approvers of CE Credit Card Fee Payment

The Board is now requiring OBN Approvers, and others, to pay fees by credit card to reduce handling checks and money orders.

Renewal Updates: MA-C, LPN, DT and CHW ends July 1

L. Emrich summarized legislation that extended the renewal periods for certain licenses and certifications. These extensions end July 1, 2021.

Renewal Preparation: RN and APRN begins July 1

The Board is preparing for the upcoming RN and APRN renewal period. APRNs are required to renew their RN license prior to renewing the APRN license. The Board implemented an enhancement to alert APRNs who renewed their RN license to also renew their APRN license. The APRN license renewal notification will continue until it is renewed.

L. Emrich provided an update on the HB 197 temporary licenses issued to applicants who did not take or failed NCLEX on or before March 1, 2021. These licenses are closed with a status of "Abandoned-Closed" with a March 1, 2021 expiration date.

Board Budget Testimony

The Advisory Group reviewed the budget testimony. L. Emrich stated that the Board's Licensure Unit has experienced an increase of at least 35% in its workload. The Board is in the process of hiring temporary project staff to assist with processing license applications.

Update from OBN Approvers and Providers of CE

Some OBN Approvers have experienced a decrease in applications from CE providers and others experienced a decrease in the number of contact hours being provided due to an increase in web-based content.

Jane Mahowald stated the Ohio League for Nursing Education Summit on April 8-9, 2021 will be virtual this year.

K. Schweitzer said the Ohio Nurses Association is hosting a Human Trafficking Awareness Symposium consisting of four weekly webinars throughout March.

Future Meetings: The remaining 2021 meetings are scheduled for July 23 and September 24.

Adjournment: Chair Lehmann thanked everyone for their attendance and participation. The meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.