
BRITISH COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS MINUTES

Date: **November 4, 2010**

Place: Renaissance Hotel, Vancouver

Chair: Gary Mavis

Members present: Kathryn McCannell, Chi Ying Wong, Bruce Northey, Geraldine Manson, Glen Schmidt, Lorna Dittmar, Bruce Hallsor

Liz Jones joined the meeting at 2:20 pm

Regrets Heather Stilwell, Susan Hogman, Susan Noakes

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

In attendance: Staff: Susan Irwin, Kirsten Dowd

Gary Mavis called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm

1. Opening Geraldine Manson opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Approval of agenda The agenda was approved as circulated.

3. Approval of minutes The minutes were revised by adding to item # 7.3 that Gary Mavis gave the Registration Appeals report and to #7.5 that Susan Irwin gave the Discipline Committee report.

The amended minutes of the meeting on September 11, 2010 were adopted.

4. REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Susan Irwin

A copy of the Registrar's report was circulated and received by the Board. Susan provided a verbal highlight of key activities:

- The College has a total of 2407 registrants and is growing at a steady rate
- 2 more complaints have come in since the last report

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- Database is up and running. There have been a few changes but completion is on target. The SharePoint function should be running soon. Committee members will need to be trained on SharePoint by telephone.
- Online renewals will be available in December, as planned. There may be high call volumes and we may need to hire temporary staff; credit card processing done through new program called Beanstream; renewal function on the new website will only be available at renewal time of year.
- Competency profile project is well underway with a meeting with the contractor in Vancouver on Monday, November 8.
- Susan attended the annual Registrars meeting in Gimli, Manitoba. The registrars group developed a proposal for the Council of Social Work Regulators regarding developing the relationship between the registrars and the full council.
- Susan reported that MCFD has struck a committee of representatives from each health authority to develop a plan to eliminate the exemption from registration. This committee will meet by telephone conference in a few weeks.

The Registrar's report was received.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

5.1 FINANCIAL REPORT: Gary Mavis

Financial Statements

The financial statements for August and September 2010 were reviewed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the BC College of Social Workers receives the financial statements for August and September 2010.

The motion was adopted.

Budget

Gary presented a proposed budget for 2011 which was reviewed and discussed. Legal and hearings costs present a challenge in annual budgeting as they may vary over several years depending on specific cases. The hearings budget includes not only legal costs for hearings but also costs of facilities, travel, and honoraria for panel members. These costs should be reviewed over a three-year period.

There was discussion about future staffing needs for the complaints function and the possibility of contracting for different services.

More office space will likely be needed when the lease expires in the spring of 2012. Consideration should be given to purchasing a strata title office.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the BC College of Social Workers approves the budget for 2011.

The motion was adopted.

5.2 REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Bruce Northey

The committee has not met since the last Board meeting in September and therefore there is no report.

5.3 REGISTRATION APPEALS: Bruce Hallsor

The Registration Appeals committee has one active file. The panel has engaged independent legal counsel and has decided to hold a written hearing. This is in process.

5.4 INQUIRY COMMITTEE: Kathryn McCannell

Reports to board

Kathryn presented 2 inquiry committee reports regarding files in which the committee did not issue citations but entered complaint resolution agreements with the social workers.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

After considering the report of the Inquiry Committee pursuant to section 28 of the Social Workers Act, the Board of the BC College of Social Workers confirms the decision of the Inquiry Committee on File 2010-01 to enter a complaint resolution agreement.

The motion was adopted.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

After considering the report of the Inquiry Committee pursuant to section 28 of the Social Workers Act, the Board of the BC College of Social Workers confirms the decision of the Inquiry Committee on File 2010-03 to enter a complaint resolution agreement.

The motion was adopted.

Kathryn reported that the committee is investigating several new complaints. There has been a common issue identified in several complaints regarding obtaining consent when working with children.

Disclosure policy

Kathryn reported that the committee has developed a disclosure policy regarding private and public information on complaints. This document reflects the provisions of the *Social Workers Act* and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The ensuing discussion identified the possibility that a court of competent jurisdiction could override this policy and therefore consideration should be given to clarifying the purpose of this policy draft and reviewing possible obligations of the College.

This matter was referred back to the Inquiry Committee to consider options and limitations of this draft policy.

Liz Jones joined the meeting and took the Chair.

5.5 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE: Bruce Hallsor

The Discipline Committee has no new cases.

Bruce reported that he issued several subpoenas on his own, as authorized under the *Social Workers Act*, on cases in which consent orders were subsequently achieved.

5.6 QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE: Chi Ying Wong

Chi Ying presented a list of tasks the committee will undertake to develop the continuing competence program, as information for the Board. The committee will also develop a model of requirements for the program.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Liz Jones

- Liz has been working with the consultant to undertake the performance review of the Registrar, to be completed in mid-December.
- Liz has met with Pam Miller, President of the BC Association of Social Workers, to explore areas of common interest to both organizations.
- A meeting with the Minister of Children and Family Development is being arranged, probably before the end of the year. The Executive and Registrar will participate in this meeting.

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- Liz will be the College’s delegate to the ASWB Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

7. ELECTION REPORT: Susan Irwin

Susan reported that the election process had met the required timelines and that close to 2400 voting packages had been mailed. 340 ballots had been received; 34 of these were late and 306 were counted.

The following were elected to the Board for two year terms: Curtis Magnuson, Gary Mavis, Bruce Northey, and Chi Ying Wong.

The Board discussed the low turnout and the high cost of mailing election packages. The Board discussed ideas for encouraging greater participation in the electoral process. It was decided to continue mailing election material in the future and to investigate the pros and cons of electronic voting.

8. MEETING SCHEDULE:

The Board set the following schedule of meetings for 2011:

- Saturday January 15
- Saturday March 12
- Saturday, May 14
- Saturday September 17

The November meeting will be scheduled later.

9. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

CHAIR: _____ Date: _____

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