
BRITISH COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS

MINUTES of BOARD MEETING

Date: **January 15, 2011**

Place: Granville Island Hotel, Vancouver

Chair: Liz Jones

Members present: Lorna Dittmar, Susan Hogman, Curtis Magnuson, Gary Mavis, Susan Noakes, Chi Ying Wong

Bruce Hallsor, Glen Schmidt, Bruce Northey were present via teleconference.

Members not present: Geraldine Manson

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff present: Susan Irwin, Kirsten Dowd

Liz Jones called the meeting to order at 9:05 am

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- 1. Introductions** Introductions were made by staff and Board members.
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- 2. Approval of agenda** The agenda was approved as circulated.
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- 3. Approval of minutes** The minutes of the meeting on Nov 4, 2010 were approved.
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- 4. Election of Officers** Susan Irwin, Registrar, conducted the election of officers.
- Liz Jones was elected Chair of the Board by acclamation.
- Susan Hogman was elected Vice-Chair of the Board by acclamation.
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- 5. REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Susan Irwin**
- A written report was circulated
 - Susan reported that registration renewal was going very well with
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no problems

- Five new complaint files were opened in November and December. Complaint reviews are increasing and requiring more time each year.
- Work on the competency profile continues and a meeting of the full Council of Social Work Regulators is scheduled to review the draft at the end of February.
- There is concern and frustration about the amount of work required to have social workers complete the required criminal record check every five years. Many people do not reply at first and even with many reminders there were still several checks outstanding at the end of the year.

6. EXECUTIVE REPORT: Liz Jones

- Liz Jones gave a verbal report.
- Liz Jones, Susan Hogman and Susan Irwin met with Minister Polak in December. The purpose was to provide an update on current issues, including bylaw amendments and the need for re-appointment of public members to the Board. Current work on exemptions for health authority employees was discussed, as well as the College's continuing request for elimination of the exemption for Ministry social workers.
- Susan Irwin's performance review is nearly finished.
- Liz attended the ASWB annual meeting in November in New Orleans
- Liz encouraged board members who have not yet taken the ASWB Board Member Training to do so.
- ASWB is interested in encouraging social workers to do item writing for the exam.
- Now that the new board is established, the Executive is interested in developing longer-term strategic planning.

Bruce Northey and Glen Schmidt joined the meeting by telephone.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT: Gary Mavis

Financial Statements

The financial statements for October and November 2010 were reviewed. Gary advised that with the completion of the database, the College will be within budget for the year and will likely have a surplus.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that

The Board of the BC College of Social Workers receives the financial statements for October and November 2010.

The motion was adopted.

7.2 REGISTRATION: Susan Hogman

The Registration Committee has not met as there are no new applications requiring a review.

7.3 REGISTRATION APPEALS: Gary Mavis

A panel of the committee is completing its review of an appeal of a decision made by the Registration Committee to deny registration to an applicant.

7.4 INQUIRY COMMITTEE: Susan Noakes

The Inquiry Committee currently has 14 active files. 5 new inquiry files were opened regarding registrants who have not completed the Criminal Record Checks on time. Summaries of the completed consent orders are now posted on the website.

Reports to board

Susan Noakes 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 2010-05 to enter a complaint resolution agreement.

The motion was adopted.

Bruce Hallsor joined the meeting by telephone.

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 2010-06 to enter a complaint resolution agreement.

The motion was adopted.

Disclosure Policy The Inquiry Committee reviewed the draft disclosure policy presented in November, as requested by the Board. The committee proposed adding an introductory statement which would address the concerns of the Board regarding the status of this policy statement.

Motion: *It was moved and seconded that the draft disclosure policy statement be revised by adding the additional statement as read. The disclosure policy statement was approved.*

The motion was adopted.

Committee Chair Kathryn McCannell has resigned as a member of the Inquiry Committee. The Board of the BCCSW acknowledged Kathryn's significant contribution to the committee and Board and Susan Noakes said she was a "Good Mentor".

7.5 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE: Bruce Hallsor

There has been no activity to report

7.6 QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE: Chi Ying Wong

There is no report as the committee has not met since November.

8. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion *It was moved and seconded that the Board of the BC College of Social Workers appoints members to the committees for a year, as follows:*

Registration Committee: Susan Hogman, Chair; Glen Schmidt, Susan Waldron, Susara Joubert

Inquiry Committee: Susan Noakes, Chair; Geraldine Manson, Bruce Northey, Curtis Magnuson, Janice Murphy

Quality Assurance Committee: Glen Schmidt, Chi Ying Wong, Lorna Dittmar, Susan Noakes, Bruce Northey, Andrea Harstone (chair not appointed)

Registration Appeals Committee: Bruce Hallsor, Chair; Chi Ying Wong, Gary Mavis

Discipline Committee: Bruce Hallsor, Chair; Lorna Dittmar, Gary Mavis, Chi Ying Wong, Liz Jones

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Finance Committee: Gary Mavis, Chair; Liz Jones, Susan Hogman

The motion was adopted.

As there were two nominees for the position of Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee and 5 board members who were unable to attend this meeting in person, it was decided to hold a vote for this position by email. This will allow all board members to cast a vote anonymously. The Registrar will send this information out on Monday January 17 and voting will be completed by the end of the business day on Wednesday January 19.

9. UPDATE ON LEGISLATION: Susan Irwin

Bylaws The Minister for Children & Family Development has approved the bylaw amendments made by the Board in November 2010. A redline version of the amendments is currently posted on our website. The bylaws will come into force after being posted for three months, which will be on April 10, 2011.

Title Exemptions MCFD has set up a committee to develop a transition plan for eliminating the exemption for health care social workers. Each health authority and the College is represented on this committee, which has had several teleconference calls.

The committee is proposing a model whereby the requirement is that those who obtained their job by virtue of a social work degree ought to be registered. A person who does not have a social work degree should use another title. Then the public is well informed of the expertise of the person who is serving them.

The board discussed this proposal and was in support of this approach. Therefore there would not be any grandparenting provision in which a person without social work credentials would become registered with the College.

Bruce Northey reported on his work to survey social service worker educators regarding interest in regulation of this sector. This initiative had been approved at a previous board meeting and Bruce has developed a short survey which will be ready for distribution soon.

10. 2011 WORK PLAN: Liz Jones

The meeting reviewed the work plan for 2011. Some issues have already been identified while others are in a preliminary phase:

- Continuing Competency requirements

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- Address exemptions in health (other sectors in the future)
- Ongoing bylaw review – should do this each year
- Hosting the ASWB spring conference
- Board evaluation
- Communications strategy – focus on non-registrants
- Privacy audit – a self-review of college practices
- Increasing staff in future depending on projects, programs
- More office space

There was detailed discussion regarding options for new office space when our lease expires in the spring of 2012. Current office is crowded and more staff may be needed in future, as well as file storage space. Susan Irwin was asked to report to the next meeting on background information regarding lease vs. purchase options

11. MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Board meeting will be held on Saturday March 12 from 9 am to 3:00 pm.

- Lorna Dittmar and Susan Hogman will not be able to attend next Board meeting.
- The executive to do some preparation on developing a plan and setting priorities before next meeting.

Annual Meeting

There was extensive discussion about scheduling the Annual Meeting for 2011.

- The first two annual meetings were held in conjunction with the BCASW annual conference in order to facilitate attendance by people from around the province
- BCASW has scheduled this year's conference for November 11 and 12. There has been no involvement of BCCSW in planning.
- Board members expressed concern about having this event on Remembrance Day and on a long week-end
- Feedback from last November's session indicated that about half of those attending the BCCSW annual meeting were also attending the BCASW conference.
- The board selected October 13 as a tentative date for our AGM
- BCASW will be asked if they will change their conference date.
- As an alternative, we will look into arranging videoconferencing facilities in several locations around the province.

12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

CHAIR: _____ Date: _____