

1 NORTH CAROLINA ACUPUNCTURE LICENSING BOARD

2 Friday, April 6, 2018

3 BOARD MEETING

4 The March 2018 Board meeting of the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board was rescheduled and  
5 took place on Friday, April 6, 2018, at 9:17 a.m. by conference call, with the following Board members  
6 present: Chairperson Cissy Majebe, L.Ac.; Karen Vaughn, L.Ac.; Shay Cline, L.Ac.; Toni Rittenberg, L.Ac.;  
7 Keli Lynne Beck, M.D and Chester Phillips, L.Ac. Ji Fei Wang, L.Ac. was unable to be present due to a  
8 previously scheduled trip, while Marc Cutler, L.Ac. and Nikole Mariencheck, Esq. were unable to attend  
9 the rescheduled meeting due to family commitments.

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11 Also present at the meeting were Board Counsel, Michael Tadych, Esq.; and Pat Pritchard, Associate  
12 Director.

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14 The following members of the public were present: Junie Norfleet.

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16 After calling the meeting to order, C. Majebe took roll, and established a quorum. P. Pritchard read the  
17 Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement.

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19 Ratification of the March 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes: The minutes for the March 2, 2018 meeting were  
20 presented to the Board for review. Karen Vaughn moved to approve the March 2, 2018 Minutes as  
21 written; S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

22  
23 Standards and Licensing Committee:

24  
25 New License Applications

26 K. Vaughn reported that members of the Committee reviewed and approved the applications for  
27 licensure of Margaret Thomas, Lauren Aguirre and Geng Wu. K. Vaughn moved to approve the license  
28 applications of all three of the listed applicants. S. Cline seconded the motion and the new license  
29 applications of Margaret Thomas, Lauren Aguirre and Geng Wu were unanimously approved.

30  
31 Inactive Status Request

32 K. Vaughn reported that the Committee had received and approved two requests for inactive status  
33 from Richard House and Karen Firestone, for both of whom this renewal would conclude eight years of  
34 consecutive inactive status. A discussion occurred about the practice of Richard House, who is also an  
35 M.D. It was noted that Dr. House's website indicates he is licensed by the NCALB in addition to his  
36 medical training as an acupuncturist. K. Vaughn moved that the Board approve Richard House's request  
37 to remain inactive for two more years, and that he be told to remove the assertion that he was a  
38 licensed acupuncturist from his promotional materials while he remained in inactive status. S. Cline  
39 seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. K. Vaughn moved that Karen Firestone's request for  
40 renewal of her inactive status for the next two years be approved. S. Cline seconded the motion, and it  
41 passed unanimously.

42  
43 CEU Submissions

44 With regard to courses submitted for CEU approval, K. Vaughn advised the Board that a course  
45 approved during the March 2, 2018 meeting had been erroneously submitted by NCSAAM for 4 CEU  
46 credits, and had been submitted for reconsideration for 5 CEU credits:

1 Course Title: Ishizaka Ryu Traditional Japanese Acupuncture, used for Pain Control, Concussion,  
2 and Face and Body Rejuvenation

3 Provider/Organization: NCSAAM

4 CEUs Requested: 5

5 Lecturer: Naoki Kubota

6 Date: August 25, 2018

7 Location: Long Life Wellness Center, Cary, NC

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9 K. Vaughn moved to approve the above course for the requested 5 CEUS. S. Cline seconded the motion  
10 and the motion passed unanimously. K. Vaughn moved to award Naoki Kubota 5 CEU credits for  
11 teaching the above course. S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

12  
13 K. Vaughn informed the Board that a second course had been submitted for approval for CEU credits,  
14 and had been approved by the Standards & Licensing Committee:

15  
16 The Basics of VA and Private Insurance Billing (2 different times)

17 Provider/Organization: NCSAAM

18 CEUs Requested: 4

19 Lecturer: Linda Tolentino

20 Dates: July 15, 2018 in Greensboro, NC and August 26, 2018 in Wilmington, NC

21  
22 K. Vaughn moved to approve the above course for the requested 4 CEU credits for both dates; S. Cline  
23 seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. K. Vaughn moved to award Linda Tolentino 8  
24 CEU credits for teaching the above course twice. S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed  
25 unanimously.

26  
27 CEU Teaching Credits

28 In addition to the courses above, K. Vaughn reported that three licensees have requested they be  
29 awarded CEU teaching credits for courses. Ian Florian submitted a request to be awarded 4.5 CEU  
30 teaching credits for teaching the course Five Element Acupuncture Principles and Clinical Application on  
31 May 12 and 13, 2018 in Durham, NC. K. Vaughn moved for approval of the 4.5 requested teaching CEU  
32 credits for Ian Florian. S. Cline seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Stacy Hewitt  
33 submitted a request to be awarded 15 CEU teaching credits for teaching Clinical Observation (Grand  
34 Rounds) at Jung Tao School of Classical Chinese Medicine on April 28-29 and June 2-3, 2018. Edna  
35 Brandt submitted a request to be awarded 15 CEU teaching credits for teaching the course AOM 601  
36 History of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine at Maryland University of Integrative Health for ten  
37 weeks beginning September 24, 2018. K. Vaughn moved for approval of the teaching CEU credits  
38 requested by Stacy Hewitt and Edna Brandt; S. Cline seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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40 License Renewals

41 Karen Vaughn reported that the Committee had reviewed twelve applications for license renewal. A list  
42 of all twelve renewal applications is attached hereto. The Board discussed the application of the newly  
43 adopted version of 21 NCAC 01 .0301, effective April 1, 2018, and whether the new or old version of the  
44 rule would be applicable to the current license renewals. M. Tadych noted that it was the prerogative of  
45 the Board to make that decision, and after discussion, all members agreed that either the old or the new  
46 version, whichever served the renewing licensee best, would be applicable.

1 K. Vaughn noted that the Standards & Licensing Committee had determined that the renewal  
2 applications for Jennifer Spain, Abbie Mercurio, D. Michael Denbow, James Ferro Brown, Heather  
3 Spangler and Robert Moffet met the requirements of the old version of the Rule, and moved that the  
4 applications be approved. S. Cline seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. K Vaughn informed  
5 the Board that Stella Eisenstein had met the requirements of the new version of the Rule, and moved  
6 that her application be approved. S. Cline seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7  
8 With regard to the renewal application of Dagmar Ehling, K. Vaughn reported that her application for  
9 renewal had been approved by the Committee, pending receipt of her CEU Certificate for Functional  
10 Endocrinology. K. Vaughn reported that even under application of the newly effective version of 21  
11 NCAC 01 .0301, Stefano Vitale and Kara Haines had not meet the requirement of obtaining 15 core  
12 acupuncture CEU credits. K. Vaughn moved that the Board deny the license renewal applications of  
13 Dagmar Ehling, Stefano Vitale and Kara Haines until they submitted the necessary documentation, as set  
14 forth on the attached list. S. Cline seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. K. Vaughn  
15 reported that Siwei Wang's renewal application included 41 CEU credits, but 6 were from a NCAAOM  
16 survey that would not be considered a formally organized course, and therefore he was 5 credits short  
17 for renewal and would need to submit the necessary documentation as set forth on the attached list. K.  
18 Vaughn moved that Siwei Wang's renewal be denied by the Board until he submits an additional 5 CEU  
19 credits. S. Cline seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

20  
21 Finally, K. Vaughn brought up the renewal application of Deborah Goodwin, on which a vote had been  
22 delayed to allow the Board to consider whether Acutronics could be considered as core acupuncture  
23 credit. K. Vaughn reported that she had provided the Board members with information regarding  
24 Acutronics. After brief discussion of the information, K. Vaughn moved that the renewal application of  
25 Deborah Goodwin, which was comprised only of 48 hours of Acutronics, be denied, and that she be  
26 required to submit 15 CEU credits of core acupuncture for renewal. S. Cline seconded the motion and  
27 the motion passed unanimously.

#### 28 29 Administrative Matters

30 P. Pritchard brought two recent questions regarding gift certificates and cannabinoid oil to the Board's  
31 attention for discussion. After discussion, the Board agreed (1) that gift certificates may be offered, but  
32 if they are not used in full, the licensee must be willing to prorate the cost and refund the unused  
33 portion of visits and (2) that cannabinoid oil may be offered by a licensee as it is not an illegal substance.

#### 34 35 Operations Committee

36 J. Norfleet reported that she and C. Majebe and M. Tadych have worked on a new fundraising letter  
37 which has been sent to licensed acupuncturists and acupuncture schools and posted on Go Fund Me. J.  
38 Norfleet also reported that the new website is getting close to completion.

#### 39 40 Ethics Committee

41 C. Phillips reported that the letter to Mr. Shin that had been written had been mailed during the week.

#### 42 43 General Matters

44 Mr. Tadych announced that the lawsuit against the NC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners would be  
45 heard by the NC Supreme Court on April 18 and that all of the Board members were invited and  
46 encouraged to attend. M. Tadych also reported that the Office of Administrative Hearings has provided  
47 him with a copy of the newly adopted rules to be published once they have been proofread.

1 C. Majebe confirmed that the next meeting is scheduled to take place by conference call on April 27,  
2 2018. Following that, the next meeting will be on June 1, 2018, also by conference call, with an in-  
3 person meeting scheduled to take place in Raleigh on July 13, 2018.

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5 At 10:23 a.m., K. Vaughn moved to adjourn the meeting; T. Rittenberg seconded the motion and the  
6 motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

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8 Attested to by: \_\_\_\_\_

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