# NORTH CAROLINA ACUPUNCTURE LICENSING BOARD Friday, December 6, 2019 BOARD MEETING

The December 2019 Board meeting of the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board took place on Friday, December 6, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. by conference call, with the following Board members present: Chairperson Junie Norfleet, L.Ac.; Ji Fei Wang, L.Ac.; Shay Cline, L.Ac.; Gilda Hunt, L.Ac.; and Keli Beck, M.D. Chester Phillips, L.Ac.; Marc Cutler, L.Ac.; and Toni Rittenberg, L.Ac. were absent.

Also present at the meeting were Board Counsel, Michael Tadych, Esq.; Pat Pritchard, Executive Director; and Cissy Majebe, Chair of the Operations Committee.

No other members of the public were present.

J. Norfleet called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m., and announced that Nikole Mariencheck, Esq. had resigned her position with the Board. After taking roll and establishing a quorum, J. Norfleet read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statements.

### **Standards and Licensing Committee**

#### **New License Applications**

J. Wang reported that the Committee had received eight new license applications, but that some had not yet been reviewed and approved by two committee members. J. Wang moved for approval of the two that had been reviewed and approved: Leslie Fay and Audrey Rivers Ellington. S. Cline seconded the motion and the new license applications of Leslie Fay and Audrey Rivers Ellington were unanimously approved. J. Wang moved approval of the remaining six applicants, contingent upon the review and approval by a second member of the Committee. S. Cline seconded the motion and the applications of Audrey Rivers Ellington, Jason Paul Boudreaux, Gyorgy Hinar Polczer, Don J. Thompson, C. Sydnie Bryant, Whitney Elisabeth Susan Richmond and Cythera Wilkerson were approved contingent upon the second Committee member's approval. Later during the meeting, the remaining applications were reviewed and approved by a second member of the Committee.

#### **Inactive Status**

J. Wang reported that the inactive status request of Kesonga Giscombe had been reviewed and approved by two members of the Committee, and moved that the inactive status request of Kesonga Giscombe be approved by the Board. S. Cline seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## License Renewals

J. Wang reported that the Standards and Licensing Committee received additional CEU credits from six license renewal applicants who had timely submitted additional CEU credits at the Board's instruction, to complete their license renewal, but that some had not yet been reviewed and approved by two committee members. J. Wang moved for approval of the four license renewals that had been reviewed and approved: Sarah Fields who needed to submit an additional 9 core credits; Joshua Fox, who needed to submit an additional 15 core credits; and Alison Colberg, who needed to submit an additional 15 core credits. S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Later during the meeting, the remaining submissions were reviewed and approved by a second member of the Committee. J. Wang moved for approval of the

license renewals of Jacquelyn Sharpe, who had needed to submit 1 additional core credit and Emily Mann, who had needed to submit 1 additional core credit. S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed a question raised by Jacquelyn Sharpe, who had been told she needed 1 more core credit for completion of her 2019 renewal. She obtained the 1 additional credit by taking a course in September 2019 that gave her 7.5 credits. She wanted to know if she could use the remaining 6.5 credits toward her renewal in 2021, since they were taken within two years of July 1, 2021, the renewal deadline for the 2021 renewal period. After discussion, S. Cline moved to allow her to use the remaining credits for her next renewal; J. Wang seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Board also discussed and rejected a request by Joshua Lee for a waiver of his late fee for reinstatement of his license.

### **CEU Class Approval**

With regard to courses submitted for CEU approval, J. Wang advised the Board that one new course had been submitted to the Standards and Licensure Committee:

### Course Title: Song Dynasty Herbs & Acupuncture

19 Provider/Organization: Daoist Traditions

20 CEUs Requested: 18
21 Lecturer: Jeffrey Yuen
22 Date: February 21-23, 2020
23 Location: Asheville, NC

J. Wang moved to approve the above course. S. Cline seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. After discussion regarding the allotment of CEU credits as between core and adjunctive credits, S. Cline moved that the course be granted 12 core and 6 adjunctive CEU credits. J. Wang seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### Ratification of the September 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the September 27, 2019 meeting were presented to the Board for review. S. Cline moved to approve the minutes as written; J. Wang seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Operations Committee**

J. Norfleet reported that she has had further discussion with CE Brokers regarding the concern as to how the program could work with our distinction between core and adjunctive credits, and hasn't gotten a clear answer yet. J. Norfleet also noted the use of the term "acupuncture physician" by an acupuncturist in advertisements that needs to be addressed with a letter and asked that the Board members be aware of similar situations.

## **Financial Committee**

C. Majebe advised the Board that Stevens Martin Vaughn & Tadych PLLC has agreed to take a reduction in fees for this year, in light of the Board's current financial situation. She discussed her plan to attempt to extinguish the Board's debt to the firm of Everett Gaskins Hancock LLP for legal fees incurred in the dry needling litigation and her intention to raise money toward that goal if each of the Board members commits to do the same. G. Hunt suggested that a letter to all licensees explaining the legislative threats

to our Board might be helpful in getting contributions from licensees. It was decided that C. Majebe and J. Norfleet would prepare a letter to be sent to licensees. The Board members thanked C. Majebe for her commitment and work toward this goal.

General Discussion

J. Norfleet thanked all Board members for their work and reminded everyone of the next meeting by conference call on January 24, 2020.

At 10:54 a.m., S. Cline moved to adjourn the meeting, G. Hunt seconded and the motion passed

Attested to by:

unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.