

MASSAGE THERAPY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Quarterly Meeting
Monday, December 5, 2016
5800 West Tenth Street
Little Rock, AR

MINUTES

Members present: Jessica Tolliver, Christabelle Krajewski, Alan Anderson, Stephenie Cooke, John Brochu

Absences: George Hrenchir, Chris Lovelace

Presiding - Chairman Alan Anderson

Called to order 9:03 a.m.

Minutes

Call to order, roll call, approval of minutes.

Continuing Education

The Specifics of Sports Massage

Bamboassage

Fijian Barefoot Massage

All of the above - motion and second to approve. All approved.

Massage Therapy for Clients with Diabetes

Research on and Treatment of Diabetes

The two courses - Question by Ms. Tolliver on how much actual massage therapy is involved in the class. Less than 25 % relates to massage therapy.

Discussion concerning little amount of information given in massage therapy school on diabetes and some had to get additional training.

Discussion of how does one know that the medical information presented in course is accurate and correct. Program is AMTA-approved, so pre-vetted before it comes to advisory committee.

Motion and second to approve both courses -- both approved.

Program Update

Election of officers -- Alan Anderson nominated for second term as chairman. Motion and second -- Mr. Anderson elected.

Ms. Tolliver wants to be considered for co-chair. Motion and second to nominate Ms. Tolliver for co-chair. Motion carried, Ms. Tolliver elected.

Ms. Kersey reported in the final stages of testing of the online state law exam. Probably will be ready in February. Discussion of how to assure person is actually taking the exam, there is no monitoring of exam. But purpose was convenience so all did not have to drive to Little Rock. Several safeguards suggested -- coding, time limits. Will check with IT Dept. to see if there are any restrictions that can be placed. It was agreed that for 20-question exam, 2 hours is too long. Time frame needs to be cut.

Public Comment

Donna McGriff -- Reconsider law changes regarding massage therapy. Laws regarding cupping, there is a flaw in the law. If this continues, it can be foreseen there would be the possible elimination of massage therapy. The scope of practice is not secure and things could possibly be removed from the scope of massage therapy. Asking department to look at the flaws in the law.

Discussion of whether rules for acupuncturists were made to fence massage therapy out. This needs to be dealt with on the state level. There is a potential for restraint of trade in massage therapy. It is deeper than the cupping issue. Need changes to protect massage therapy so as not to lose the modalities.

Presentation by Dawn [last name?]

Represents a coalition of message therapy business owners, goal is to preserve and protect the profession. Working with State Representative Fred Love on the need to address issues in legislature.

Developing two interim study proposals.

1 - request house committee on public health welfare for parameters for massage therapy techniques. language needs to be clear, concise and protective of association.

2 - request house committee to study authorizing cupping modality for massage therapists, maybe just use different terminology, such as myofascial release.

Need to create a list of interested parties, fundraise, have a one-day conference.

Ad hoc Committee update

Last meeting had to be canceled.

Next ad hoc committee meeting scheduled for January 11, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Next Board of Health meeting, January 26, 2017

Next Massage Therapy Technical Advisory Committee meeting -- March 13, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.