

MASSAGE THERAPY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Quarterly Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2016
5800 West Tenth Street,
Little Rock, AR

MINUTES

Members present: Jessica Tolliver, George Hrenchir, Christabelle
Krajewski, Chris Lovelace, John Brochu

Excused absences: Stephenie Cooke, Alan Anderson

Presiding - Co-Chair George Hrenchir

Called to order 9:00 a.m.

Minutes

Continuation of discussion started at last meeting regarding where the practices of reflexology and cupping reside in the law. Reflexology currently resides under massage therapy rules. Discussion of taking the word 'cupping' out.

-- With the one correction -- Christabelle Krajewski was listed as present at last meeting when she was in fact absent -- motion and second to approve the minutes, motion passed.

Rule Revision Updates

Jessica Tolliver, Ad Hoc Chairperson, reported committee is very busy.

Committee currently clarifying and covering bases so that everything is right. Decided that the 75% rule is antiquated and it puts burden on schools with something they cannot control. Will evaluate the intent of the rule and how to get the desired result.

Working on state licensure regulations/reciprocity changes.

Discussion of live fish spa foot massage. Practice does not fall under massage therapy, but rather cosmetology. It is not allowed under cosmetology rule that does not allow animals in salons.

Next ad hoc committee meeting is this coming Friday, at 1:00 at the Freeway Medical Center. Anyone welcome to come and discuss rule revisions.

Legislative Session

Continued discussion of cupping. Agency will not pursue it as being part of massage therapy. Cupping is not in the scope of massage therapy; it is under the scope of acupuncture. Question of if already approved massage therapy classes on cupping should be removed.

Mission of agency and mission of advisory committee may not be the same. Does not mean that advisory committee cannot pursue the issue of cupping. It will take time to get resolution of cupping issue. Citizens can try to move issues forward, through their lawmakers as well.

Question regarding minors' criminal records in application process. Juvenile records are sealed and not discoverable. Crime has to show up on a criminal background check to be considered. Agency is not liable if crime doesn't show up on criminal background check. Waiver of federal background check if applicant has lived in state for five years. Committee recommended changes for background check. Definitions needs to be changed by statute.

Discussion on if approved classes expire, how long to keep approved classes before expiration, how to renew class approvals.

Continuing Education

Motion and second made for approval of all courses, with three exceptions. All except for the following three were approved:

1. Pharmacology for Treatment Planning - No documentation of formal education. Approved pending submission of documentation of education and experience in pharmacology.
2. Hot Stone - Incomplete or insufficient class format and learning objectives. Need more defined class format, class outline
Motion made and seconded to Table this application pending more information on course outline and course objectives, and verification of experience.
3. Sidelying positional application - Motion made and seconded to Table until applicant shows verification of copyright usage agreement.

Program Update - Kelli

IT Dept is developing online state law test.
CE applications - trying to get on screen for meetings.
Cut-off date for applications - 30 days. Will address 2 weeks in rules and regulations revisions.
Starting in 2017, meeting moved to 2nd Monday of month.
Amendment to Ashiatsu course to use a different bar.
Now have finished scanning of current and expired files.
There is a list on website of approved courses.
The links are up for rules and regulations.

Public Comment

Further discussion of issue of cupping as acupuncture, terminology used, suction. Use of any suction format in any form is in acupuncture statute. Mr. Clark needs advice on cupping class currently taught in massage therapy.

Massage therapy license says 'therapist'. It is curative work. If modalities are taken away, will no longer be therapists.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.