



Certified Professional Guardianship Board

Monday, January 14, 2019 (9:00 am – 1:00 pm)
SeaTac Office Center, 18000 International Blvd., Suite 1106,
SeaTac, WA

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Judge Rachelle Anderson, Chair
Ms. Rosslyn Bethmann
Judge Grant Blinn
Ms. Rita Forster
Ms. Amanda Froh
Mr. Bill Jaback
Ms. Victoria Kesala (Telephonically)
Commissioner Diana Kiesel
Judge Robert Lewis
Dr. K. Penney Sanders
Ms. Susan Starrfield
Ms. Amanda Witthauer
Dr. Rachel Wrenn

Members Absent

Staff Present

Ms. Stacey Johnson
Ms. Kathy Bowman
Ms. Jennifer Holderman
Ms. Carla Montejo
Ms. Kim Rood
Ms. Eileen Schock

Guests – see list on last page

1. Meeting Called To Order

Judge Rachelle Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

2. Welcome, Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

Judge Rachelle Anderson welcomed those present and called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2018 teleconference. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Bill Jaback abstained.

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 3, 2018 teleconference minutes as presented. The motion passed. Bill Jaback abstained.*

3 Chair's Report

Judge Anderson reported on SSB5604, the Uniform Guardianship Act (UGA) that would add a new chapter to Title 11 RCW and repeal RCW 11.88, 11.92 and 26.10. A large fiscal note is in process and feedback is expected from the Superior Court Judges Association's Guardianship and Probate Committee. If passed, the UGA will make

sweeping changes to existing laws governing guardianships of both adults and minors. Judge Anderson also commented on other current legislation, SB5114, that would create a guardianship pilot program for persons who are gravely disabled to provide them individualized treatment, supervision and appropriate placement to support successful transition to the community. This bill would make it less difficult for a family member to become guardian of another family member with mental illness, including minors.

4. Public Comment Period

The following individuals made public comments:

- Gary Beagle, President, Washington Association of Professional Guardians (WAPG) – *Written comments are attached*
- Claudia Donnelly – *Written comments are attached*

5. Introduction of New Program Manager, Academic Programs, UW Continuum College – Miriam Doyle Ph.D.

Miriam Doyle was introduced to the Board as the new program manager of the Certification Program for Professional Guardians. Ms. Doyle acknowledged the Board's concerns about the need for professional guardians and the relatively low enrollment of individuals in the Certification Program in light of the demand for this profession. Ms. Doyle described the tension between affordability and operating a high quality program. Creative approaches to making the program more robust were suggested. Judge Anderson invited Ms. Doyle to attend all Board meetings in order to become more familiar with the Board. Board members were encouraged to utilize their own networking opportunities to increase awareness of the need for CPGs.

Malinda Frey, CPG, has accepted the role of Instructor with the UW Certification Program. Ms. Frey also spoke to the Board about the need for revamping the program as it exists, work that is in process. Judge Anderson suggested the Education Committee or subcommittee meeting with the UW by phone to continue the discussion.

6. Education Committee Survey of UW Graduates

Bill Jaback reported on results of a questionnaire sent to all CPGs about their experience with the UW Certification Program. The committee was gratified by receiving a 30% response rate. Results of the questionnaire included suggestions for increasing focus on business practices and mentoring. Many respondents noted the need for greater support to lessen "burnout". Another suggestion was for the UW Certification Program to increase their attention on less restrictive alternatives.

7. Grievance Update

Staff reported on the current status of guardianship complaints requiring investigation. Judge Lewis asked about how grievances are reviewed. Staff responded the most

concerning complaints, such as an IP in danger of imminent harm, is the first priority for review. These cases are also forwarded to the court of record. Guardians with multiple grievances are a second priority and the oldest complaints are a third priority. It was acknowledged that Certified Professional Guardians deserve to have grievances resolved more quickly. A number of grievances have been closed as a result of CPG Voluntary Surrender of their certification. The Standards of Practice Committee has also worked very hard to accomplish a reduction of the backlog.

A third Guardianship Grievance Investigator has been hired and will begin work on February 19, 2019, and this will also directly reduce the backlog of grievances and help to assure new grievances will be timelier investigated.

8. Executive Session – Closed to Public

9. Reconvene and Vote on Executive Session Discussion – Open to Public

Applications:

On behalf of the Applications Committee, Victoria Kesala presented the following applications for Certified Professional Guardian Certification. Members of the Application Committee abstained:

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Alexis Carter's application for certification, with transferrable skills in health care, upon completion of the UW Certification Program. The motion passed.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to approve Karen Nakagawa's application for certification, with transferrable legal skills. The motion passed.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Taffi Wheeldon's application for certification, with transferrable skills in social services, upon completion of the UW Certification Program. The motion passed.*

Staff presented the following for Administrative Decertification under Certification Regulation 703.3.1, failure to pay the annual recertification fee and file the required GR23(3) disclosure:

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to Administratively Decertify David Grout. The motion passed. Bill Jaback abstained.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to Administratively Decertify Cheryl Stratemeyer. The motion passed. Bill Jaback abstained.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to Administratively Decertify Certified Professional Guardianship Agency Beagle and Associates. The motion passed. Victoria Kesala abstained.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to Administratively Decertify Certified Professional Guardianship Agency Your Advocates, Inc. The motion passed.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to not allow additional oral argument upon the Board's review of a Hearing Officer's recommendation, based on Disciplinary Regulation 510. The motion passed.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded that the Board adopt the position that it has the authority, for the purpose of investigation of a guardianship complaint, to have access to trust documents to assist in that investigation. The motion passed. Voting Yes: Rita Forster, Susan Starrfield, Roz Bethmann, Amanda Froh, Rachel Wren, Judge Robert Lewis. Voting No: Commissioner Kiesel, Amanda Witthauer. Abstained: Victoria Kesala, Penney Sanders, Bill Jaback*

10. Wrap Up and Adjourn

The next Board meeting will be held telephonically on March 11, 2019 at 8:00 am. As there was no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Recap of Motions from January 14, 2019

Motion Summary	Status
Motion: <i>A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 3, 2018 teleconference minutes as presented. The motion passed. Bill Jaback abstained.</i>	Passed
Motion: <i>A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Alexis Carter's application for certification, with transferrable skills in health care, upon completion of the UW Certification Program. The motion passed.</i>	Passed
Motion: <i>A motion was made and seconded to approve Karen Nakagawa's application for certification, with transferrable legal skills. The motion passed.</i>	Passed
Motion: <i>A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Taffi Wheeldon's application for certification, with transferrable skills in social services, upon completion of the UW Certification Program. The motion passed.</i>	Passed
Motion: <i>A motion was made and seconded to Administratively Decertify David Grout. The motion passed. Bill Jaback abstained.</i>	Passed
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Guests:

- Gary Beagle
- Claudia Donnelly
- Miriam Doyle
- Malinda Frey
- Ian McDonald
- Karen Newland
- Lisa Petersen