



## Certified Professional Guardianship Board

Monday, October 12, 2020

Zoom Video Conference

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Meeting Minutes

#### Members Present:

Judge Rachelle Anderson  
Ms. Rosslyn Bethmann  
Judge Grant Blinn  
Ms. Rita Forster  
Ms. Amanda Froh  
Commissioner Diana Kiesel  
Judge Robert Lewis  
Ms. Lisa Malpass  
Dr. K. Penney Sanders  
Mr. Dan Smerken  
Dr. Rachel Wrenn  
Ms. Amanda Witthauer

#### Members Absent:

Ms. Susie Starrfield

#### Staff Present:

Ms. Stacey Johnson  
Ms. Kathy Bowman  
Mr. Christopher Fournier  
Ms. Jennifer Holderman  
Ms. Thai Kien  
Ms. Kay King  
Mr. Ramsey Radwan  
Ms. Kim Rood  
Ms. Eileen Schock  
Ms. Rhonda Scott

**Guests: See list on last page**

#### 1. Meeting Called to Order

Judge Anderson called the October 12, 2020 Certified Professional Guardianship Board meeting to order at 9:04 am.

#### 2. Welcome, Roll-Call And Approval of Minutes

Members of the Board and the public were welcomed.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 14, 2020 meeting minutes as written. There were none opposed and no abstentions.

#### 3. Chair's Report

Judge Anderson announced the Board is sad to be losing staff member Kim Rood, who is retiring at the end of the month of October. Kim will be terribly missed but was she was congratulated on her opportunities to spend time with her grandkids and other interests. Ms. Bethmann said she appreciated all Kim's work on passwords and travel assistance.

The Certified Professional Guardianship Board meeting calendar was included in the meeting materials. The meetings held in March, May, August, September and November are one hour in length, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Longer meetings are held in January, April (the annual planning meeting), June, and October, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All meetings are assumed to be held via Zoom Video Conference at this time. Judge Anderson asked the Board, when we are able to meet again in person, would Board members prefer to continue holding meetings via Zoom or in person. Judge Anderson asked for feedback to either herself or to staff.

Judge Anderson reported the biggest issue currently in process is the implementation of the Uniform Guardianship Act, effective in January 2021 for minor guardianship. Training and pattern form development are underway.

#### **4. Grievance Report**

Staff reported on the status of Certified Professional Guardian grievances. There were 7 new grievances received and 3 grievances closed in September, 2020. A total 52 grievances remain open in investigation status. Twenty Eight (28) of these were received in 2020. Eighteen (18) remain open from 2019. Board members asked staff to clarify the dispositions used in the monthly Certified Professional Guardians Grievance Status report.

The Board had previously asked staff how many of the 302 currently active Certified Professional Guardians were certified before the UW Continuum College Certification program was established. Having researched the question, staff reported 135 currently working CPGs were certified in 2008 or earlier and 167 CPGs who were certified after 2008.

#### **5. Office of Public Guardianship Update**

Jennifer Holderman presented on the history and current work of the Office of Public Guardianship. The Office of Public Guardianship (OPG) currently serves 95 individuals, who represent approximately 3% of the need. A Board member asked if Lay Guardians could be considered for assignment to an OPG case, even it were for a single individual. Ms. Holderman responded that per statute, the Office of Public Guardianship must work with Certified Professional Guardians. A Board member asked if there was a pro-bono requirement for Certified Professional Guardians, such as for attorneys. Ms. Holderman replied she would check into that. It was also suggested a survey of the guardianship community could be done to discover how many pro-bono cases they carry at this time.

#### **6. Training Coordinator Update**

During the 2020 legislative session, the Uniform Guardianship Act (UGA) effective date was amended resulting in a bifurcated effective date for different sections of the statute. The general provisions of the statute become effective with respect to minors, but not adults, on January 1, 2021. Article 2 of the UGA, regarding minor guardianship, becomes effective January 1, 2021. The remainder of the UGA, including adult guardianship, conservatorships, and all other protective arrangements becomes effective January 1, 2022. The non-parental custody statute RCW 26.10 is repealed on January 1, 2021. Article 2 of the UGA confers custody of the child to the guardian and includes a duty to support. Petitioners seeking non-parental custody will now be petitioning for guardianship under Title 11. The UGA requires lay guardian training, and a separate minor guardianship lay guardian training is under development. Many of these cases typically involve pro-se litigants. Pattern form development for minor guardianship is still underway, to be available by January 1, 2021. Trainings are being provided to a large array of stakeholders on minor guardianship. Training for judicial officers is scheduled for October 19 and November 2. Trainings also continue to be provided with respect to adult guardianship, and have included presentations to guardian conferences and associations, various CLEs, and elder advocacy groups, including presentations on the UGA, the GR 9 process, and elder protection mechanisms.

#### **7. Public Comment**

Judge Anderson invited anyone who wished to speak, to please indicate this in the Zoom Group Chat. There were no public comments received.

## 8. Executive Session (Closed to the Public)

## 9. Reconvene and Vote on Executive Session Discussion (Open to the Public)

The Applications Committee will defer candidates to the next Board meeting.

Motion Judge Blinn moved that the Board reject the settlement offer. Judge Lewis seconded. Opposed, Lisa Malpass, Amanda Witthauer. The motion passed.

Motion Dan Smerken moved that the Board send the CRC recommended advisory letter and a letter to the grievant in CPGB 2019-054. None were opposed. The motion passed.

Motion Judge Lewis moved to adopt the proposed change to Regulation 202. Commissioner Kiesel seconded. None were opposed. The motion passed.

Motion Judge Lewis moved to adopt GR23 technical amendments. Judge Blinn seconded. None were opposed, and there were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Motion Judge Lewis moved to adopt GR23 proposed change to the formal education requirement, allowing applicants for Certified Professional Guardian with a HS education or GED equivalent and 5 full years of pertinent experience. Rachel Wren seconded. Opposed, K. Penney Sanders and Rosslyn Bethmann. No abstentions. The motion passed.

Motion Dan Smerken made a motion to table GR23 additional proposed changes, to allow more time for review. Penney Sanders seconded. None were opposed. The motion passed. Judge Anderson stated a vote by email is due by 4:00 pm October 13, 2020.

## 10. UW Hiatus Year

As voted on at the June Board meeting, there will be an alternate training path for Certified Professional Guardians while the UW Continuum College program is on hiatus during the 2020-2021 academic year. The Board was asked to prioritize the materials it would like to see covered and make recommendations to the Education Committee.

## 11. Wrap Up/Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm. The next meeting of the Certified Professional Guardianship Board will take place via Zoom Video Conference on November 9 at 8:00 a.m.

## Summary of Motions

MOTION	STATUS
A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 Board meeting as written.	Passed
A motion was made and seconded to reject the settlement offer. Opposed, Lisa Malpass, Amanda Witthauer. The motion passed.	Passed

A motion was made and seconded to send the CRC recommended advisory letter and letter to the grievant. The motion passed.	Passed
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed change to Regulation 202. The motion passed	Passed
A motion was made and seconded to adopt GR 23 technical amendments. The motion passed.	Passed
A motion was made and seconded to adopt GR23, proposed change to the formal education requirement, allowing applicants for Certified Professional Guardian with a High School education or GED equivalent and 5 years of pertinent experience. Opposed, K. Penney Sanders, Roslyn Bethmann. The motion passed.	Passed
A motion was made and seconded to table GR23 additional proposed changes, to allow more time for review. The motion passed.	Passed

**Guests:**

Alexis Carter  
Ben Miller  
Chris Neil  
Clif Messerschmidt  
David Giusti  
Deborah Jameson  
Doc Williams  
Glenda Voller  
Heather  
Holly Surface  
Jen Collins  
Karen Newland (Puget Sound Guardians)  
Katlyn Balsam  
Loralee Williams  
Mark Vohr  
Michael Longyear  
Mindi Blanchard  
Richard  
Robin Balsam  
Sarah Feldman  
Scott Malavotte  
Sylvia Curry  
Tina Baldwin  
Tracey Raymond