



Certified Professional Guardianship Board

Monday, May 10, 2021

Zoom Meeting

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Judge Rachelle Anderson
Dr. Rachel Wrenn
Ms. Susan Starrfield

Staff

Ms. Stacey Johnson
Ms. Thai Kien
Ms. Kay King
Ms. Rhonda Scott
Mr. Christopher Fournier
Ms. Eileen Schock
Ms. Kathy Bowman
Ms. Brandy Walker

Guests – see list on last page

1. Meeting Called to Order

In the absence of Board Chair Judge Anderson, Vice Chair Judge Blinn called the May 10, 2021 Certified Professional Guardianship Board (Board) meeting to order at 8:07 am.

2. Welcome, Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

Judge Blinn welcomed all those present. Hearing no suggested changes or corrections, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on April 12, 2021 as written. The motion passed.

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 12, 2021 Certified Professional Guardianship Board meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.*

3. Chair's Report

In the Chair's absence, Judge Blinn moved on to the next agenda item.

4. Transition Planning

Ms. Johnson reported that several members' terms will end September 30, 2021. She has reached out to Board members eligible to serve another term and inquired if they would like to continue to serve. Ms. Roz Bethmann is not eligible to serve another term which opens a Board

position for an advocate for persons under guardianship. DSHS nominated another person to fill Ms. Rita Forster's position. Ms. Amanda Froh's first term ends at the end of September. Ms. Froh has chosen not to serve another term. WSBA will nominate a new member to fill Ms. Froh's position. Judge Anderson has nominated Judge Kiesel to fill the Chair position beginning October 1, 2021. Judge Kiesel accepted the nomination.

Ms. Bethman asked Ms. Johnson to send out an announcement to individuals for consideration regarding the Board's open position. Ms. Johnson agreed that she would send the open position announcement to the Board stakeholder listservs.

5. Regulations Committee Report

Judge Kiesel thanked the committee members for all of their hard work on proposed regulations changes. As the UGA does not provide for stand-by guardians for adult guardianships, the Regulations Committee has proposed draft Regulation 401.6 which suggests a guardian and/or conservator should develop contingency plans, in case the guardian or conservator is unavailable to serve.

On behalf of the Regulations Committee, Judge Kiesel moved to publish Regulation 400.1 through 400.7 and 401.1 through 401.6 for public comment. Dr. Penny Sanders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to publish Regulations 400.1 through 400.7 and 401.1 through 401.6 for public comment. The motion passed unanimously.*

Judge Blinn asked Judge Kiesel if the Committee prefers comments on the regulations in written form. Judge Kiesel said, yes. She also stated that if anyone wants to comment on the posted regulations, they may send their comments to her or Ms. Johnson.

6. Updated 2020 Annual Report and Grievance Report for April 2021

Mr. Chris Fournier thanked Ms. Karen Newland and the public for their feedback on the 2020 Annual Report. The annual report has been updated to reflect the corrections brought to the Board's attention at the April 2021 Board meeting. Mr. Fournier reported that, after further review, one hundred and ten (110) grievances were closed in 2020.

Regarding the April 2021 Grievance Report, Mr. Fournier reported nine (9) new grievances were received and five (5) grievances were resolved in April. Four (4) grievances were dismissed due to No Actionable Conduct (NAC) and one (1) grievance was resolved with an Agreement Regarding Discipline (ARD). Mr. Fournier further reported there are a total of thirty-nine (39) open grievances. Twenty-two (22) of the open grievances were received in 2021. He also reported twenty-nine (29) of the thirty-nine (39) open grievances involve eight (8) agencies having two (2) or more grievances.

Dr. Penney Sanders, in response to the public comment in the last meeting, asked if the Board should continue to separately track grievances for CPGs who completed the University of Washington (UW) program vs. CPGs who did not. She also wondered if the Board should separately track the CPGs who complete the alternate training done this year as well, or if the Board should not track either group. Judge Kiesel feels the more information the better and that the Board should stay the course. However, she was willing to consider whether this affects the workload on the staff. Judge Lewis stated that if the Board doesn't plan to use the information,

then tracking it serves no purpose. Ms. Froh thought the year of CPG certification should be maintained. Ms. Eileen Schock gave multiple examples of how the statistics from the tracked information may not be statistically significant because of numerous variables. Mr. Dan Smerken agreed with Ms. Schock, but also agrees with Ms. Froh that there is value in tracking the year of CPG certification. Ms. Lisa Malpass questioned the relevance of keeping the chart. Ms. Johnson noted that the tracking chart was originated to initially review if there were greater CPG grievance numbers pre or post UW training. Judge Blinn suggested this subject be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, for further discussion.

7. Executive Session (Closed to Public)

8. Reconvene and Vote on Executive Session Discussion (Open to Public)

On behalf of the Applications Committee, Judge Lewis presented the following applications for Certification Professional Guardian. Members of the Application Committee abstained.

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to approve Wendy Abercrombie’s application for certification with transferrable skills in Social Services. The motion passed unanimously.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Tamara Beltz’s application for certification, upon completion of alternate training, with transferrable skills in Social Services and Financial Management. The motion passed unanimously.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to approve Justo Frajio’s application for certification with transferrable skills in Social Services and Financial Management. The motion passed unanimously.*

Motion: *A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Erna Hajdarevic’s application for certification, upon completion of alternate training, with transferrable skills in Social Services. The motion passed unanimously.*

The consideration regarding discipline of a CPG was deferred to the next scheduled Board meeting.

9. Wrap Up/Adjourn

The next CPG Board meeting will take place via Zoom Conference on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 9:00 am. As there was no other business to discuss, the May 10, 2021 meeting was adjourned at 8:59am.

Motion Summary		Status
Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 12, 2021 Certified Professional Guardianship Board meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed

Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to publish Regulations 400.1 through 400.7 and 401.1 through 401.6 for public comment. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed
Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to approve Wendy Abercrombie's application for certification with transferrable skills in Social Services. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed
Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Tamara Beltz's application for certification, upon completion of alternate training, with transferrable skills in Social Services and Financial Management. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed
Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to approve Justo Frajio's application for certification with transferrable skills in Social Services and Financial Management. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed
Motion:	<i>A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve Erna Hajdarevic's application for certification, upon completion of alternate training, with transferrable skills in Social Services. The motion passed unanimously.</i>	Passed

Guests Present

Rich King
Neil and Neil
Karen Newland
Caroline Wood
Katlyn Balsam
Sam Maleski