



Certified Professional Guardianship and Conservatorship Board

Monday, April 10, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present

Judge Diana Kiesel, Chair
Judge Robert Lewis¹
Judge Ferguson-Brown
Dr. K. Penney Sanders
Mr. Dan Smerken
Ms. Melanie Maxwell²
Ms. Lynda Clark
Mr. William Reeves
Ms. Lisa Malpass
Ms. Anita Souza

Staff Present

Ms. Stacey Johnson
Ms. Thai Kien
Ms. Kathy Bowman
Ms. Maureen Roberts
Ms. Sherri White
Ms. Rhonda Scott
Ms. Linda Vass

Members Absent

Judge Grant Blinn
Ms. Susie Starrfield
Ms. Kristina Hammond

Guests – See last page

1. Meeting Called to Order

Judge Diana Kiesel called the March 13, 2023 Certified Professional Guardianship and Conservatorship Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m..

2. Welcome, Roll Call & Approval of Minutes

Judge Kiesel welcomed all present both in person and remotely.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the March 13, 2023 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed.

3. Chair's Report

Judge Kiesel reflected on her time with the Board and thanked members for their hard work under the UGA.

4. Public Comment Period

Several members of the public presented.

Ms. Deborah Jameson requested that the Board reduce bias in applications by removing SPI and opening the application review to public session.

Mr. Chris Neil presented on the history of the Board.

¹ Judge Lewis left at 12:15 p.m.

² Ms. Maxwell joined at 9:11 a.m.

Ms. Karen Newland shared how the best part of guardianship is the joy and wants to bring personal stories to the Board periodically.

Ms. Linda Voller presented the need for CPGC support in the unsheltered population.

5. Regulations Committee

Mr. Smerken announced that the regulations committee has reinterpreted the bylaws to understand that committees need not abstain from votes on their activities.

6. Education Committee

Ms. Vass presented recent webinars for approval.

It was moved and seconded that the board approve the CEUs recommended. The motion passed.

7. Annual Report

Ms. Scott presented the annual report for 2022.

8. Grievance Report

Ms. Scott reported five (5) grievances were received during the month of March. At March's meeting, the Board dismissed two (2) grievances and forwarded five (5) grievances to superior court. A total forty-one (41) grievances are currently unresolved. Currently, there are two hundred fifty-two (252) active CPGCs.

9. Presentation by Office of Public Guardianship

Ms. Thai Kien presented on the Office of Public Guardianship (OPG). Ms. Karina Tharge discussed the challenges of being a guardian and how OPG helps to alleviate some of those challenges. Ms. Kien discussed the increasing demands for guardianship services and the shortage of professional guardians. In an effort to recruit more CPGCs and reduce barriers for applicants, Ms. Kien suggested the Board consider a marketing component, reduce the number of years' experience required for those with a high school diploma and an associate's degree, and reexamine regulations to allow experience as a lay guardian for a family member to count as transferrable. This presentation was offered as one (1) General CEU.

Ms. Kien also provided clarification on the Board's relationship with OPG stating that the Board does not have oversight of the OPG program.

10. Executive Session (Closed to Public)

11. Reconvene (Open to Public)

12. Vote on Executive Session Discussion

On behalf of the Standards of Practice Committee, Dr. Sanders presented the following grievances for Board action. Members of the Standards of Practice Committee abstained.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to forward complete grievance 2023-015 to court. The motion passed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to dismiss grievance 2023-016 for no jurisdiction. The motion passed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to dismiss grievance 2022-071 based on findings received from superior court. The motion passed.

Announced Administrative Dismissal of the following grievances 2019-026, 2019-031, 2020-005, 2021-049

13. Wrap Up/Adjourn

Judge Kiesel regretfully announced the passing of CPGC Ramona Mather. With no other business to discuss, the April 10, 2023 CPGC Board meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Board meeting will take place via zoom on May 8, 2023.

Recap of Motions:

| MOTION SUMMARY | | STATUS |
|----------------|---|--------|
| Motion: | It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Board meeting. | Passed |
| Motion: | It was moved and seconded to forward complete grievance 2023-015 to court. | Passed |
| Motion: | It was moved and seconded to dismiss grievance 2023-016 for no jurisdiction. | Passed |
| Motion: | It was moved and seconded to dismiss grievance 2022-071 based on findings received from superior court. | Passed |

Guests:

Samantha Hellwig (AAG)
Sarah Mills
Brenda Morales
Glenda Voller
Karen Klem Newland
Kecia Hedgeman
Shannon Marsh

Chris Neil
Katlyn Balsam
Deborah Jameson
Sarah Tremblay
Scott Malavotte
Micah Balasbas
Theresa Mayou