

## AGENDA

### CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTICIANS

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, at 9:00 AM  
Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT  
**Third Floor Conference Room -C**

#### CALL TO ORDER

**I. Minutes**

Review and approval of the minutes from the December 5, 2012 Meeting.

**II. New Business**

A. Program Approval

Goodwin Technical College - Application to begin a program in Ophthalmic Science

B. Memorandum of Decision

Meeting House Opticians – Petition No. 2012-1147

**III. Department of Public Health Updates**

A. Investigations Update

*Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH*

B. Examination Update

*Deborah Brown, Health Program Assistant*

**IV. Legal Office Business**

**V. Examination Appeals**

*Deborah Brown, Health Program Assistant*

**VI. Additional Agenda Items**

#### ADJOURN

The Department of Public Health is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

*If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly,  
please contact the Public Health Hearing Office at 860-509-7566.*

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and have not yet been adopted by the board.

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians held a meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at the Department of Public Health, Capitol Avenue, Third Floor Conference Room, Hartford, CT.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:**

Linda Conlin, LO, Chairperson  
René"Skip" Rivard, LO  
Donna K. Bojus (Public Member)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Jeffrey Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison, DPH; Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH; Steve Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, DPH; Alfreda Gaither, Esq., Staff Attorney, Hearing Office, DPH; Deborah Brown, DPH Health Program Assistant; Matthew Antonetti, Esq., Principal Attorney, DPH Legal Office.

Chairperson Linda Conlin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Ms. Conlin recognized Ms. Donna K. Bojus and introduced her as the newly appointed Public Member of the Board.

**I. Minutes - September 12, 2012**

1. The minutes from the scheduled meeting of September 12, 2012 were read. Motion to accept: Bojus, second: Rivard. Motion Passed

**II. Department of Public Health Updates**

**A. Investigations Update - Gary Griffin, Practitioner, Investigation Unit, DPH**

1. Mr. Griffin said that three investigations are ongoing. He reported that **The Happy Dollar Store** in Fairfield was investigated regarding the sale of non-prescribed (plano) cosmetic contact lens. The store voluntarily removed the product from their inventory. No charges were filed.

Mr. Rivard asked when investigating the sale of non-prescribed plano contacts, attempts be made to determine the source of their illegal distribution.

2. Mr. Rivard asked the investigation status of ELO Optical, Torrington, CT. He reviewed that Board minutes of May 10, 2012 state that an Optical Selling Permit had been reinstated to ELO Optical. Those minutes reflect that the ELO Optical permit had been inactive for several years. It was questioned if it had been operating without a valid OSP.

Mr. Rivard noted that minutes from the Board meeting on September 12, 2012 state that the investigation was ongoing.

Mr. Griffin told the Board that investigation is still in progress.

3. Mr. Rivard also requested the investigation status pertaining to Walmart Optical and Independent Doctors of Optometry. Information was originally presented to the Board at its May 10, 2012 meeting and referred to the DPH for investigation. He also noted that the minutes from the Board meeting of September 12, 2012 reflect that the investigation was ongoing. Mr. Griffin again reported that the investigation was ongoing.

B. Examination Update - *Deborah Brown, Health program Assistant*

1. Ms. Brown reported the examination results for the November 2012 administration.
  - a. Nine candidates applied for the Contact Lens exam. Five candidates passed. Three candidates failed the examination. One candidate did not attend the examination.
  - b. Ten candidates applied for the Eyewear exam. Nine candidates failed. One candidate did not attend the examination.

Discussion followed regarding candidate comments overheard during the exam. The Board expressed its concern for proctor safety should a candidate verbally declare an ignorance regarding the tested subject matter.

Prior to the Spring examinations, the Board will consider an element of its practical exams with regard to proctor safety.

2. The application deadline for the Spring practical license exams was set for April 5, 2013.

III. **Old Business -**

A. Motion for Summary Suspension - *Meeting House Opticians #0001395 / Jeffrey Fine*

1. On behalf of the DPH, Attorney Antonetti presented a **Motion for Summary Suspension** In Re: Meeting House Opticians [Petition 2012-1147]

It was duly noted that neither Mr. Fine nor his representative made an appearance on his behalf.

Discussion followed regarding the Statement of Charges.

Motion to Grant the Summary Suspension: Rivard; Second: Conlin. Motion passed unanimously.

2. As required, a Hearing Date was set. Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 9:00 AM.

**IV. New Business**

A. Memorandum of Decision - *Jeffrey M. Fine, L.O. - Petition 2012-198.*

1. After discussion and review, a motion was made to revoke Mr. Fine's license to practice as an optician. Motion: Rivard; Second: Conlin; Abstain: Bojus. Motion Passed. The Memorandum of Decision was signed by Chairperson Conlin.

B. Schedule Meeting Dates for 2013

1. Quarterly meeting dates were tentatively set. Meetings will be held at the Department of Public Health and start at 9:00 AM.
  - a. Wednesday, February 27, 2013
  - b. Wednesday, May 8, 2013
  - c. Tuesday, September 10, 2013
  - d. Tuesday, November 26, 2013

**V. Office of Licensure Regulation and Compliance**

A. No Business

**VI. Examination Appeals**

A. No Business

**VII. Additional Agenda Item**

A. No Business

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Bojus made a motion, seconded by Ms. Conlin to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 A.M. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



René R. Rivard  
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians