

Cosmetologists' Board Meeting

Monday, February 5, 2024

A meeting of the State Board of Cosmetologists was held on Monday, February 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference.

Board Member Attendees

Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt, *Chair, Industry Member*

Ms. Shanay Wiggs, *School Member*

Ms. April Kenney, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Rosalind Hosley, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Kelly Canty, *Consumer Member*

Mr. Maurice Fains, *Cosmetologist Member*

Other Staff Attendees

Ms. Nicole Fletcher, *Executive Director*

Ms. Breona Scott, *Assistant Executive Director*

Ms. Leslie Braxton, *Licensing Supervisor*

Ms. Fatmata Rahman, *Administrative Officer*

Ms. Ashely Thompson, *Office Secretary*

Mr. Kenneth Sigman, *Advice Counsel*

Ms. Renee Robertson, *Continuing Education Coordinator*

Ms. Kimberly Archie, *Inspector*

Ms. Karina Papavasiliou, *Inspector*

Agenda

Quorum Announced, and Meeting Called to Order

A quorum was announced by Chair Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt and the meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher requested a motion to amend the agenda. Chair Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt made a motion to approve the agenda with amendments, seconded by Ms. April Kenney and Ms. Shanay Wiggs, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of December 4, 2023 Minutes

The minutes of the December 4, 2023, meeting were reviewed by the Board. Chair Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Shanay Wiggs to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. April Kenney and the motion unanimously passed.

New Business

A. ATARASHII APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher introduced Jessee Skittrall who is the program coordinator for the Atarashii Apprenticeship Program. The Atarashii Apprentice Program is a Federally approved apprenticeship training program with approval through the United States Department of Labor- Employment Training Administration. The Atarashii Apprentice Program offers sponsor apprenticeship training in Cosmetology, Hair Design, Esthetics and Manicuring, and Barbering. Their objective is to partner with mentoring sponsor salons barbershops and beauty industry apprentice candidates to provide oversight, reporting, and fundamental training to enhance the on-the-job training provided by the sponsor. He stated that they facilitate motivated individuals to realize sustainable careers within the beauty industry. Mr. Skittrall stated that five key aspects of apprenticeships differentiate them from other workplace training programs. 1. Apprentices are paid while they learn. 2. Apprentices gain real-world relevant skills in the beauty trade of their choice through on-the-job learning and under the supervision of an experienced mentor. 3. The apprentice prepares for a successful career in the beauty trade. 4. The apprenticeship includes a structured learning experience to accommodate learning styles with any-time learning resources providing for flexibility in their

schedule. 5. Apprentices earn a portable nationally recognized certificate and collect pre-requisite hours to apply to state boards to sit for licensure exams. Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt inquired if the Atarashii Apprenticeship Program was approved, if it would be optional, and whether all salons would adopt the program. Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that a vote would be taken after she and Advice Counsel, Mr. Kenneth Sigman reviewed the federal and state laws regarding the apprenticeship program.

B. JAPANESE HEAD SPA

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that the Board has been receiving a few inquiries regarding Japanese Head Spas in the state of Maryland. Assistant Executive Director Ms. Breona Scott stated that it is a hair massage spa but does not provide heating or blow-drying services. The Board does not have any regulations regarding Japanese Head Spa. Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt stated that it is a service done in salons and the service includes scalp treatments like hair washing. The board decided to table this topic for the March 2024 meeting.

C. FEE INCREASE REGULATION AMENDMENT

Advice Counsel Mr. Kenneth Sigman stated that the proposed amendments would increase fees by 12% and the Board discussed the need for greater increases but 12% is what is acceptable to the secretary of Labor and the regulations. The regulations have been published and just needed to be added to the agenda so that the public is aware. The Licensing Supervisor asked if the fee increase could increase yearly. Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt made a motion for the fee increase regulation amendment, Ms. Shanay Wiggs seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

D. APPRENTICE RESTARTS

1. Tiffany Keeling (Apprentice Limited Nail Technician)-NO SHOW
2. MyHanh Tran (Apprentice Nail Technician) -NO SHOW

3. Mr. Huyen Bui obtained an apprentice nail technician license from August 1, 2021, to August 1, 2022. The apprentice was not able to complete the program due to the sponsor not knowing how to input the monthly report. The sponsor joined the meeting with the apprentice and explained her reason for not being able to assist the apprentice with the hours. Assistant Executive Director Ms. Breona Scott will contact both the sponsor and apprentice to assist them.
4. Ms. Keadra Arnold obtained an apprentice nail technician license from June 28, 2022, to June 28, 2023. Ms. Arnold was not able to complete the apprenticeship due to her sponsor not paying her for the apprenticeship. Her sponsor attended the meeting with her. Ms. Shanay Wiggs explained to Ms. Arnold that she would not be able to restart the apprenticeship program a third time if she did not complete her second attempt. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that the apprenticeship program is not technically a paid program. A sponsor does not have to pay an apprentice because it is a learning opportunity. A motion was made to approve Ms. Arnold's apprenticeship nail technician's restart. Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt approved the restart, it was seconded by Ms. Kelly Canty, and the Board unanimously approved.
5. Karla Rodriguez (Apprentice Nail Technician) -NO SHOW
6. Mr. Phuc Luu obtained an apprentice nail technician license from August 27, 2010, to August 27, 2011. He just moved to the United States and had a language barrier and thought he would be able to complete the program. Mr. Luu does have a sponsor and is prepared to complete the apprenticeship program now. Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt made a motion to approve the apprenticeship restart, Ms. Kelly Canty seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

D. DUAL LICENSURE

Former Cosmetologist Board member Mr. Charles Riser stated that his school offers cosmetology and last year started offering esthetics. He's discovering that cosmetologist students want to take a deeper dive into esthetics, but unfortunately, a cosmetology license supersedes an esthetician's license. The challenge from the school side is if a student is a cosmetologist they cannot sit for an esthetician license. Mr. Riser asks if there is a fundamental reason that a licensed cosmetologist can't go from a cosmetologist to an esthetician. Executive Director, Ms. Fletcher asked if there is a specific reason or if

regulations have to be changed for cosmetologists to hold both licenses. She is also going to check with Mr. Joe Petrosino, DP Programmer/Analyst, and Operations Manager on the application process. The board will discuss this topic at the March 2024 meeting.

Old Business

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

1. SB 0027-COSMETOLOGY LICENSURE COMPACT

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that through funding from the Department of Defense (DoD), the Council of State Governments developed a licensure compact for the cosmetology profession to enhance licensing portability for practitioners. This would allow practitioners to work in multiple states with a single-state license.

2. HB 180-EYELASH EXTENSIONS

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that this house bill was previously presented as Senate Bill 423 by Senator Bidel. It is the same bill from last year. There will be a hearing from Economic Matters on HB 180 on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, for anyone who wants to join through YouTube. It will be a live session. Ms. Fletcher will be testifying and submitting the testimony to be favorable with amendments only because in the past the Board wanted to allow estheticians to be a part of the bill but they are not. As it currently reads, HB 180, lines 13-14 A LIMITED LICENSE TO PROVIDE EYELASH EXTENSION SERVICES and line 9 (iii) a limited license to provide esthetic services; identifying them as two separate licenses. Ms. Fletcher's proposal for the bill was to provide eyelash services under the esthetics portion so that estheticians would not have to receive an extra license. She also stated that individuals currently providing eyelash services will have to obtain an eyelash license to continue to provide services. If the bill passes, it will go into effect October 1, 2024.

However, the Board will give a grace period to individuals who are currently providing eyelash services to allow them to become licensed.

3. SB 0264-SUNSET EXTENSION

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that this bill is routine legislation that allows the Cosmetologist Board to remain in existence and continue operating. This will renew the Board and Maryland laws governing cosmetology until July 2034.

4. HB 0642-APPRENTICESHIP IN LICENSED OCCUPATIONS ACT OF 2024

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that this bill affects the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing. The purpose of requiring professional and occupational regulatory boards to issue 4 licenses, certifications, and registrations to individuals who complete an apprenticeship program that is established under certain provisions of this Act. The only license the Board does not have an apprenticeship for is the blow-dry stylist license. The Board receives many requests for that license and the Board already has a Blow Dry Stylist license in effect.

5. SB 629-MEMBERSHIP ALTERATION

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that the purpose of this bill is for the membership of the State Board of Cosmetologists to include one licensed esthetician; the bill also reduces the number of consumer members of the Board (from two to one). The current law states that the Board has seven members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of Labor. Four members must be licensed cosmetologists; one member must be an owner or educator affiliated with a private cosmetology school; and two must be consumers.

C. CURRICULUM APPROVAL

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher advised that there are no curriculum approvals at this time.

D. INSPECTION REPORT

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher advised that there are no inspection reports at this time.

Public Comment

Mr. Charles Riser commented on making sure the Board has an eyelash curriculum in place because there is no apprenticeship program. He stated that schools will have to get approved by MHEC for eyelashes to be added to school curriculums.

Ms. Shannon Rice expressed how she thoroughly enjoyed today's meeting and will always inform the public about updates.

Adjournment

Board Chair Ms. Trai Dagucon-Hunt made a motion to call the meeting to adjourn at 12:05 P.M, seconded by Ms. Kelly Canty.

APPROVED BY: _____ on March 4 , 2024.