# Commission of Pharmacy Meeting Minutes WEDNESDAY, December 15, 2010

Commissioners and staff present:

Steve Beaudin Allyn DeMaida, sub Board Administrator Edith Goodmaster Steve Schwane, DCP Legal Counsel,

Mary Inguanti Absent:

William Summa, Chair James Cangelosi Fred Vegliante deLinda Brown-Jagne

## Others present:

Bryan Couture Marghie Giuliani Lisa Holle Robert Jansing

Sudheer Kari Radhakrishna Katragadda

Marek Kolodziej Erin Lewis

Jillian McEnery

Karl Nieforth

Troy Ruff

Karen Scinto

Minnie Simss

Chris Toni

Joseph Morasutti
Sirisha Pavuluri
Kathy Savarese
Violet Silks
Jon Thiboutot
Peter Tyczkowski

**Robert Zirlis** 

Meeting Called to Order 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 126

Hartford, Connecticut

#### Interview of Reciprocity Candidates

Chairman Summa provided an overview of the telephone interview including the reasons why the following questions are asked during the interview process. The questions are asked of potential licensees in order to ensure proper communication skills since the pharmacist will need to interact with patients and community members, as well as give the pharmacist an opportunity to explain his or her past experiences and disciplinary action, if any.

The questions asked by the Commission are:

- Have you ever been before a Board?
- 2. Have you ever had a problem with drugs or alcohol?
- 3. What is Connecticut's CE requirement?
- 4. What is the pharmacy technician ratio for Connecticut?
- 5. Why are you seeking licensure in Connecticut?

\*Monica Chainani Medford, MA Gary Diehl Lawrenceburg, IN

Lisa Marie Holle Mansfield, CT

Radhakrishna Katragadda Brick, NJ

\*Joseph Kiernan Wakefield, RI

\*Hyun Suk Kim White Plains, NY

\*Sonia Patel New York, NY

\*Sirisha Pavuluri Spotsylvania, VA

\*James Smith Niles, MI

\*denotes telephone interview

Commission action: A motion was made by Commissioner Beaudin, seconded by Commissioner Goodmaster and a vote of 5-0 was passed approving the above applicants for licensure by reciprocity.

#### First Time Managers

Commissioner Summa summarized the responsibilities of a first-time pharmacy manager and the reason for their appearance before the Commission. Commissioner Summa also emphasized the importance of the pharmacy manager's role as opposed to the front-store manager (in many retail settings).

Commissioner Inguanti provided first-time managers with a brief overview of reporting errors and the Med Watch program.

Appearing before the Commission as first-time managers are:

Bryan Couture PCT.10950 CVS/pharmacy #1152 Niantic

Marek Kolodziej Discover Rx PCT.9741 Plainville

CVS/pharmacy #839 Jillian McEnery

PCT.11722 Plainville

CVS/pharmacy #4473 Joseph Morasutti

PCT.10615 East Lyme

Sirisha Pavuluri **Beacon Prescriptions** 

PCT.11615 (Pending) Willimantic

## **Application for Pharmacy Internship**

Sudheer Kari Vernon, CT

The candidate was approved for internship

## New Pharmacy Applications

Hope Dispensary of Greater Christine Toni, PIC **Bridgeport** 752 East Main Street Bridgeport, CT 06608

Upon review of the application, the Commission determined Hope Dispensary would need to apply for a Specialty License and would need to provide more detail to the Commission. The applicant stressed that there would be no controlled substances distributed and that no repackaging or compounding will be done. Chairman Summa asked when they planned to open and was told they were hoping to open in January; Chairman Summa indicated that could not happen based on the documentation provided today. He directed the applicant to work with Commissioner Inguanti to try to meet the target opening date of January 2011.

Commission action: Motion made by Commissioner Goodmaster and seconded by Commissioner Beaudin for issuing a Specialty License with the proviso that all information needed to grant the license would be provided to Commissioner Inguanti as soon as possible; a vote of 5-0 was passed approving the motion.

#### Pharmacy Remodel

CVS/pharmacy #1151 464 Reidville Drive

PCY.1381

#### Waterbury, CT 06705

## Pharmacy Relocation

CVS/pharmacy #185 PCY.1103 Violet Silks, PIC

From: To:

277 Bank Street 215 West Street Seymour, CT 06483 Seymour, CT 06483

Commission action: A motion was made by Commissioner Goodmaster, seconded by Commissioner Beaudin and a vote of 5-0 was passed approving the above pharmacy remodel and relocation.

Marghie Giuliani of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association was invited to address the Commission. She reported she has been involved with the State's SustiNet Program and hasn't been able to attend the last several meetings of the Commission. She had two questions of the Commission: the first was regarding the Commission's opinion on NABP accreditation of community pharmacists. Chairman Summa indicated the Commission members haven't really studied the issue. The second issue was with regard to continuing education - ACPE and NABP are looking into a collaboration to have pharmacists report their credit directly to NABP. Ms. Giuliani is not in favor of this, and the Board was in agreement with her stance. Ms. Giuliani also raised two other issues: pharmacist workload, and pharmacists providing immunizations. Commissioner Summa stated that the workload issue was raised at the last meeting, and he subsequently received correspondence from the University of Connecticut asking if the Commission would be interested in doing a manpower hours study. He discussed the matter with the legal department, and they advised having UConn do the study independent of the Commission. Chairman Summa invited Ms. Giuliani's group to do their own study as well. Ms. Giuliani said her organization wanted to do something more along the lines of a focus group, and emphasized they were not looking for more regulation.

#### **Legal Matters**

DN 10-1402 Price Chopper Pharmacy (PCY.1612) was subject to a scheduled inspection by Drug Control. The pharmacy was cited for having several outdated over-the counter drugs. The department is recommending a civil penalty of \$500. A motion was made by Commissioner Goodmaster, seconded by Commissioner Inguanti and a vote of 5-0 was passed accepting the department's recommendation.

DN 10-1378 Rite Aid Pharmacy #10376 (PCY.1264) breached patient confidentiality by giving a prescription to the wrong person. The agreement provides for a \$500 civil penalty to the pharmacy. A motion was made by Commissioner Beaudin, seconded by Commissioner Vegliante and a vote of 5-0 was passed accepting the department's recommendation.

DN 08-343 Pharmacist Kenneth Fisher (PCT.8096) had his license placed on probation for two years by an agreement approved on May 28, 2008. The agreement was entered into after this department was notified of a DUI arrest (the pharmacist was required to complete an Alcohol Education Program). Recently, this agreement was reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank. The Licensee has asked that the agreement be modified to remove the term "probation" and call it a "monitoring" agreement.

The Licensee argues that the arrest did not arise from his activities as a pharmacist and that he voluntarily entered into the agreement to assure the Commission he could practice safely. He cites comments in the revised National Practitioner Data Bank regulations stating that participation in impaired monitoring programs are not to be reported to the Data Bank. The Drug Control Division has no objection to this modification. After extensive discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Goodmaster, seconded by Commissioner Inguanti and a vote of 5-0 was passed accepting the department's recommendation.

DN 10-1423 CVS/pharmacy #185 (PCY.1103) breached patient confidentiality by giving a prescription to the wrong person. The agreement provides for a \$1,000 civil penalty to the pharmacy. A motion was made by Commissioner Beaudin, seconded by Commissioner Inguanti and a vote of 5-0 was passed accepting the department's recommendation.

Hearing: Cancelled.

#### Other Legal

Before concluding, Attorney Schwane reported he had received 13 new cases since the last meeting: 6 diversions, 3 prescription errors, 2 quality assurance reports not completed after reports of errors, and 2 improper technician ratios.

Request for CE Waivers, etc.

Sokpoleak So is requesting that he CE requirement be waived due to his being enrolled as a fourth year medical student at the New York Medical College. Request approved

#### **Miscellaneous**

Brookfield Pharmacy is requesting approval to decrease pharmacy hours to 20 hours per week. There are no walk-ins, however, anyone wishing to speak with a pharmacist may go to the licensed area to do so. Request approved

## **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of November 17, 2010 minutes

Commission action: A motion was made by Commissioner Vegliante, seconded by Commissioner Beaudin and a vote of 5-0 was passed approving the October meeting minutes.

## **Non-Resident Pharmacy Applications**

CDF Rx 6900 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 125 Plano, TX 75022

Medicare Diabetic and Medical Supplies, Inc. 933 Clint Moore Road Boca Raton, FL 33487

Metro Drugs 79 Hdson Street, Suite 302 Hoboken, NJ 07030

NuCara Pharmacy 1150 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 140 Coralville, IA 52241

Pallimed Solutions, Inc. 400 West Cummings Park, #1050 Woburn, MA 01801

Commission action: A motion was made by Commissioner Vegliante, seconded by Commissioner Inguanti and a vote of 5-0 was passed approving the above non-resident pharmacy applications.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Beaudin, seconded by Commissioner Goodmaster and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.