

Speech Language Pathologist/Audiologist Advisory Council Minutes

NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Attendees

Council Members

- Jim Clark, Public Member
- Josephine Helmbrecht, AuD
- Sarah Kahley, AuD
- Briann Morbitzer, SLP

- Nicole Erickson
- Alison Helm
- Ah Her
- Todd Hoover
- Julianna Leintz
- Daphne Ponds
- Debbie Thao

MDH Staff

- Jane Danner

Announcements

MNSHA will continue to work on legislation for SLP assistant licensure and interstate compacts for SLPs and Audiologists. If you would like more information, please reach out to Emily.K.Aust@gmail.com and she will be happy to provide more information.

Approval of August 17, 2022, Minutes

Approved and Accepted

Additions / Adoptions of Agenda

No additions noted

Agenda was adopted

Staff Reports

Reports were presented

Renewal notices will go out via email

We have had changes with the redesign and some info was not added to Oracle. That information will be added and Ah Her will create a revised report. The numbers shouldn't change much. The complaint form is located on our website. People can still call in and file a complaint if they prefer. Statute requires a phone number and internet method. We have both. If someone needs assistance our staff will work with them to

process the complaint. Internet is a pdf form. This is not fillable online it should be filled out and submitted via email.

Old Business

- HID exam update – We are caught up with the COVID-19 backlog. A large class has graduated and we are working on getting them all scheduled.
- Proctor on-boarding –We have a great number of proctors now. MDH would like to know if you have suggestions of what would be most helpful to you to provide this service.
- OTC Hearing Aids – Federal Regulations implemented in October were intended to increase the number of individuals over 18 that receive hearing devices for mild to moderate impairment more easily. We are having a meeting at 4:00 regarding 2023 legislative proposals. We will be proposing that our terminology aligns with the federal regulations.

New Business

Meeting schedule for 2023 – We will be meeting quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

- February 15, 2023
- May 17, 2023
- August 16, 2023
- November 15, 2023
- HID exam update meetings are happening more frequently re: scoring, content updates and technology. The MDH goal is to complete this by the end of 2022.

Josie shared complaints about audiometry and the inability to share what the candidate did wrong were common. We are changing to using CounselEAR for full audiograms, candidates will be able to get feedback. Troubleshooting will be multiple choice scenarios, not physical devices. Changing the protocol for ear molds i.e. bracing, masking, and safety. The written exam will be proctored online by MDH and provided by CounselEAR. Our consultant Al Ahamed will be working on knowledge transfer of the modernization work before the end of his contract.

- Licensing renewal update (including wallet cards) Renewal will be sent out via email. Communications will go out this week for those renewing in January.

Beginning 2023 wallet cards will no longer be provided. There is an online verification system to verify a person's license. New applicants will still receive a wall certificate. This change is to conserve resources.

- MDH What you need to know when you buy hearing aids brochure review

Walked through the new brochure. No longer trifold will be a two-page PDF document. How to express concern is currently not a category we will be adding that back in on the next version.

- Website Overview: [SLPA Home page \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/providers/slpa/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/providers/slpa/index.html)

Thank you, Jim, for the feedback provided. People are still able to get email updates, by entering their email address at the bottom of the page. We appreciate any feedback you may have about our newly redesigned pages. All our webpages are being standardized

- The SLPA council has five open positions - one Hearing Instrument Dispenser, one Public Member, two Audiologists and one Speech-language Pathologist. Please refer interested people to the Secretary of State website. <https://commissionsandappointments.sos.state.mn.us/Agency/Details/141>

Adjourn

We adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

We will meet quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 PM

- February 15, 2023
- May 17, 2023
- August 16, 2023
- November 15, 2023

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