

# Barbers' Board Meeting

**Monday, June 10, 2024**

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

## Board Member Attendees

Mr. Larry Franklin - *Chairperson*

Mr. Andrew Campbell - *Industry Member*

Mr. Wade Menendez - *Industry Member (Absent)*

Ms. Toni Wallace - *Industry Member*

Ms. Lisa Ennis, *Industry Member*

Mr. Channing Trent- *Industry Member*

*Industry Member- Vacant*

## Other Staff Attendees

Ms. Nicole Fletcher- *Executive Director*

Ms. Breona Scott- *Assistant Executive Director*

Ms. Leslie Braxton- *Licensing Supervisor*

Mr. Jacob Guy- *Board Administrator*

Ms. Fatmata Rahman- *Administrative Specialist III*

Ms. Ashley Thompson- *Office Secretary*

Mr. Kenneth Sigman- *Advice Counsel*

Ms. Renee Robertson- *Continuing Education Coordinator*

Ms. Karina Papavasiliou- *Inspector*

*Full Time Inspector- Vacant*

## Agenda

### Quorum Announced, and Meeting Called to Order

A quorum was announced by Executive Director, Ms. Nicole Fletcher and the meeting was

called to order at 10:03 a.m.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Executive Director, Ms. Nicole Fletcher requested a motion to approve the June 10, 2024 agenda. Ms. Toni Wallace made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Lisa Ennis, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

### **Approval of April 8, 2024 Minutes**

Executive Director, Ms. Nicole Fletcher asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Toni Wallace to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Channing Trent and the motion unanimously passed.

## **New Business**

### **A. LEGISLATIVE QUICKLIST**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that the Legislative Quicklist is a list of ideas for new laws or amendments to existing laws to pursue during the 2025 legislative session. All of the directors of Occupational and Professional Licensing boards were asked to contact their boards for feedback regarding legislative updates. The Barber Bridge Program would enable licensees who are currently licensed as barber stylists to become fully licensed barbers. It teaches them the chemical aspects of barbering. Currently, for a Barber Stylist to become a Master Barber they have to successfully pass the Barber examination, hold a Barber license for 15 months, and then request an approval letter from the Board to take the Master Barber examination. Continuing Education and increased disciplinary fines were other items that were added to the quicklist. Currently there are limits on monetary fines that are not sufficient to deter violations.

## **Old Business**

### **A. STAFFING UPDATE**

Executive Director Nicole Fletcher stated that Kimberly Archie has resigned from the full time Inspector position. Ms. Archie was an Inspector for the Board for three years, and she was a

great asset to the team. That position is now vacant and will be posted online soon. The Board also welcomes the newest Administrative Specialist Jacob Guy. He is a quick learner and also oversees the Apprenticeship Program.

## **B. CURRICULUM APPROVAL**

There are no current curriculums to be approved at this time. Executive Director Nicole Fletcher stated that she has been in contact with a school that inquired about school training for children under 16. COMAR 09.16.01.06 states: A person may be registered as an apprentice if the person is at least 16 years old. At the moment there are no regulations or statutes that state how young a person can be to receive training that will go towards their State Board Examination and license. Board member Ms. Lisa Ennis stated that there are trainings taking place in Maryland that involve minors under the age of 16. Ms. Fletcher stated that she will confer with Advice Counsel Mr. Kenneth Sigman.

## **C. INSPECTION REPORT**

Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton provided an Inspection Summary for today's meeting. The Data was collected from April 5, 2024-June 7, 2024.

<b>14</b>	<b>New shop applications received</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>New shops pending inspections - assigned</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>New shops pending inspections - to be assigned</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Complaints received</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Complaints - open / to be investigated</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Complaints - inspections completed</b>
<b>91</b>	<b>Inspections conducted</b>
<b>35</b>	<b>Inspections passed</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Inspections failed</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Failed - new shop inspections</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Failed - late renewal inspections</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Failed - complaint / per board inspections</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Closed at time of inspection / Permanently closed</b>

## **Public Comment**

**Michelle Byers-** Ms. Byers spoke about a junior program in Philadelphia that teaches techniques and theory to minors who receive a certificate upon completion. She also voiced support for the Barber Bridge program.

**Shannon Rice-** Ms. Rice asked for clarity regarding the requirements for home-based barbers. Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton explained that home based shops have the same requirements as shops in commercial spaces. Executive Director Nicole Fletcher added that apprenticeships could take place in home-based shops, as long as the shop is registered and the sponsor is qualified. Ms. Rice went on to express her desire to receive newsletters from the Board highlighting important updates and changes. Executive Director Nicole Fletcher agreed that it was important to keep an open and frequent line of communication with the public.

**Channing Trent-** Mr. Trent inquired about mobile barber shops and barbers who travel to meet their clients. Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton explained that these barbers must be tied to a brick and mortar location that is registered with the Board.

**Toni Yvette-** Ms. Yvette asked how the Board planned to disseminate laws and other regulations to Industry Members and the public. Executive Director Nicole Fletcher encouraged Board members and others with knowledge on the subject to help in spreading the word by informing barbers and providing them the resources to know what they can and can not do. Enforcing such laws should be left to Inspectors and the Board. Ms. Fletcher also provided an update on the push to create a social media presence for the Board. At this time it is not something that is being prioritized, but remains a possibility in the future.

**Jessica Jackson-** Ms. Jackson asked about the Boards jurisdiction in oversight and inspection of private schooling institutions. Executive Director Nicole Fletcher stated that the Board does have jurisdiction regarding issues of sanitation. Ms. Fletcher also provided Ms. Jackson with the proper resources to file an official complaint.

## **Adjournment**

Executive Director Nicole Fletcher made a motion to call the meeting to adjourn at 10:50 A.M, seconded by Ms. Toni Wallace and Mr. Larry Franklin.

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ on August 12 , 2024.