

Guardian ad Litem Board
Public Minutes
April 12, 2019
121 South Fruit Street

A meeting of the Guardian ad Litem Board was held on April 12, 2019. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Duncan at 1:20 p.m. Also in attendance were: Representative David Welch, David Robbins, Attorney Betsy Paine, and Attorney Todd Prevett. Not present were, Attorney Sarah Blodgett, Honorable Henrietta Luneau, David Villiotti and Senator Hennessey. Attending from the Office of Professional licensure and Certification was Chris Horne. Mary Clare Kusturin was present as a member of the audience.

1. **Reading and approval of the March 15, 2019 minutes-** Attorney Paine made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2019 meeting. D. Robbins seconded. Attorney Prevett and Attorney Paine abstain and motion passes.

2. **Unfinished Business-**

a. **Free State Social Work website-** Staff presented the Board with some information on the Free State Social Work web site. It appears to be a very good source of continuing education for multiple states. There is a listing of courses on the site. The online courses all have a test to show you understand the material. The classes should be on a case by case based on the subject matter if the Board decides to approve them. In some areas of the state it is hard to get to live classes. Right now the Board has the Domestic Violence DVD that individuals view and sign and affidavit. CASA does an online video training. The Board is aware they need to be consistent and realize many things are done online. Board would like Attorney Lavalley and Attorney Broderick at the next meeting to discuss a rules change to the number of hours live and a change in wording instead of attend to use complete.

b. **Quorum for this Board-** noted

3. **Communications General-** Staff made the Board aware that new updates are taking a little longer while the new IT person gets comfortable in their position.

4. **CEU Requests-** none

5. **Board Updates-**

a. **Number of GALs- as of April 12, 2019-**

1. Current- 62 plus 1 no longer accepting appointments
2. Temp- 4
3. 2 new applications

b. Chairperson Duncan has been in contact with Judge King about a new Judges panel and a response to the number of GALs available and where courts may have a hard time getting one.

c. GAL Survey- Staff has a survey monkey survey in process right now and the results should be completed for the next meeting.

6. New Business-

a. Judge Carbon will be calling in to the May meeting- to discuss a question she has regarding rule 503.06(h) requiring the GAL to notify the Court and the Board about being a party to an unrelated case in the Courts. What is the rationale for this? The Board reviewed Attorney Lavallee's comments on 503.06(h). at the May meeting the Board will be able to discuss this rule with Judge Carbon.

b. Moira from the Office of the Child Advocate will be at the May meeting

7. Non-Public Session-

Upon the motion of D. Robbins and the second of Representative Welch the Board, by roll call vote, voted to conduct a non-public session at 2:20 p.m. Such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II(j), RSA 91-A:5, IV, Lodge v. Knowlton, 118N.H.574(1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

b. Upon return to public session Attorney Paine made a motion to seal the minutes, D. Robbins seconded, roll call vote and motion passes.

8. Adjournment- representative Welch made a motion to adjourn at 3:20 p.m. D. Robbins seconded, all in favor and meeting adjourned.

a. May 10, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. D. Robbins will not be at the May meeting.