

Guardian ad Litem Board
Public Minutes
January 17, 2020
121 South Fruit Street, Concord

A meeting of the Guardian ad Litem Board was held on January 17, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Duncan at 1:07 p.m. Also in attendance were: Representative David Welch, Attorney Todd Prevett, Representative Gordon and Attorney Sarah Blodgett. Not present were Honorable Henrietta Luneau, Betsy Paine, David Villiotti, and Senator Hennessey. Attending from the Office of Professional licensure and Certification was Chris Horne.

1. **Reading and approval of the December 13, 2019 Minutes-** Representative Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2019 meeting as written. Attorney Blodgett seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

2. **Unfinished Business-** none

3. **Communications General-**

a. Financial Interest Statement- noted and filled out by the Board members

4. **CEU Requests-**

a. Youth Mental Health First Aid USA-8 hrs.- Attorney Blodgett made a motion to approve the course for 8 hrs. Attorney Prevett seconded, all in favor and motion passes. Staff needs to confirm the number of hours does not include the breaks and lunch.

b. 2018 Protocols Relative to TPR, Surrender of Parental Rights, Voluntary Mediations and Adoptions-additional 2.5 (already approved for 2.5) - Attorney Blodgett made a motion to approve the course for the additional 2.5 hrs. Attorney Prevett seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

c. Domestic Violence & Ethics-2019-3hrs- Attorney Prevett made a motion to approve the course for 3 hrs. Representative Welch seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

d. Developing Age-Appropriate Parenting Plans-3hrs- staff will ask for the agenda and then it will be resubmitted to the Board.

e. Domestic Violence and Negotiations Between Parties: Deconstructing Myths and Managing Court Processes-5.5 hrs.- Attorney Blodgett made a motion to approve the course for 5.5 hrs. Representative Gordon seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

f. Ethics World Café: What Would you Do?- 3 hrs.- Attorney Prevett made a motion to approve the course for 3 hrs. Representative Welch seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

g. Non-Violent Communication: A Powerful Model for Mediators-3 hrs.- Attorney Prevett made a motion to approve the course for 3 hrs. Representative Welch seconded, all in favor and motion passes

h. Drafting Comprehensive Agreements in Complex Cases-6 hrs- Attorney Blodgett made a motion to approve the course for 1 hr. Attorney Prevett seconded, all in favor and motion passes. After discussion and the review of the course, it was determined that 1 hour would be relevant to GAL work.

i. Psybersick: Internet Pathology and Social media addiction-6 hrs-staff will reach out to the person who submitted the CEU to get an agenda. Then the Board will review at the next meeting.

j. Red Book Training Course-8hrs- Representative Welch made a motion to approve the course for 8 hrs. Attorney Blodgett seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

5. Board Updates-

a. Number of GALs- as of October 4, 2019- noted

1. Current- 62 plus 2 no longer accepting appointments

6. New Business-

a. Passing of a Guardian Ad Litem- Ken Gorell was well liked and did a very good job. Chairperson Duncan sent a card on behalf of the Board.

b. Board discussed adding to the Nuts and Bolts training a section about social media. Parents many times disclose confidential information on social media. GALs need to know how to address this in Court.

c. Board talked about GAL numbers in certain courts and how Judges tend to use GALs that they are familiar with and trust to do the right thing.

7. Non-Public Session-

a. Upon the motion of Representative Welch and the second of Attorney Prevett, the Board, by roll call vote, voted to conduct a non-public session at 2:00 p.m. Such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II(j), RSA 91-A:5, IV, Lodge v. Knowlton, 118 N.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 at 2:25 p.m. Representative Welch made a motion to seal the non- public minutes. Attorney Prevett seconded, roll call vote, and motion passes.

8. Adjournment- Representative Welch made a motion to adjourn at 2.27 p.m. Attorney Prevett seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

a. Next Meeting February 21, 2020