

Guardian ad Litem Board  
Public Minutes  
February 21, 2020  
121 South Fruit Street, Concord

A meeting of the Guardian ad Litem Board was held on February 21, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Duncan at 1:10 p.m. Also in attendance were: Honorable Henrietta Luneau, Attorney Betsy Paine, David Villiotti and Representative Ned Gordon. Not present were Representative David Welch, Attorney Todd Prevett, Attorney Sarah Blodgett and Senator Martha Hennessey. Attending from the Office of Professional licensure and Certification was Chris Horne and Attorney Tom Broderick for the rules discussion. Also present was Ralph Morin.

1. **Reading and approval of the January 17, 2020 Minutes-** Representative Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2020 meeting. Chairperson Duncan seconded. D. Villiotti, Attorney Paine and Honorable Luneau abstain and motion passes.

2. **Unfinished Business-** none

3. **Communications General-** none

4. **CEU Requests-**

a. Supportive Communities, Strong Families, Safe Kids: The Prevention Connection- 5.25hrs. Many of the courses offered for this training were approved by the Board. The course listing will have what has been approved. Honorable Luneau, Attorney Paine and D. Villiotti made motions to approve with Honorable Luneau and Attorney Paine seconded many of the courses. All in favor and motion passes.

b. Developing Age-Appropriate Parenting Plans-3hrs Attorney Paine made a motion to approve this course. Honorable Luneau seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

c. 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Shield Our Children from Harm: Stronger Teams for Safe Families- 5.75 hrs. Honorable Luneau made a motion to approve this course, Representative Gordon seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

d. Can you Hear What I Need? Eliciting, Understanding and Integrating Children's Perspectives in Family Law Cases- 8 hrs. Honorable Luneau made a motion to approve this course for 7 hrs. Attorney Paine seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

e. Co-occurring Medical and Psychological Conditions-6 hrs. Honorable Luneau made a motion to approve this course. D. Villiotti seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

f. Motivational Interviewing-12 hrs- Honorable Luneau made a motion to approve this course. D. Villiotti seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

g. Prime for Life Instructor Training-12 hrs- This course seems to be for teaching not GAL work. There was not enough information submitted to approve any time. The Board will need more information.

h. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy-6 hrs- Representative Gordon made a motion to approve this class after staff verifies lunches and breaks are not included in the time requested. Attorney Paine seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

i. Conflict Resolution: Learning to Help Clients Manage in Life & Resolve Stress- 6 hrs.- Representative Gordon made a motion to approve this class after staff verifies lunches and breaks are not included in the time requested. Attorney Paine seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

## **5. Board Updates-**

a. Court Improvement Project updates; Parental Fitness and Missing and Absent Parent trainings will take place in May and June. There is a change for GAL as they will no longer have a role in determining parental fitness. It is DCYFs role to recognize unfit parents. The Changes will take affect July 1, 2020.

b. Partnering for a Future without Violence training has been rewritten to reflect a number of statute changes. this training will roll out this summer.

c. Ralph Morin spoke to the Board about trainings. Possibly doing roundtables, presentations and mentoring. These would help all GALs with issues they may have. Also asked if it made sense to have an advisory committee on training. Ralph can reach out to staff with information/ trainings he would like to share with the Board.

## **6. New Business-**

a. GAL files- Attorney Broderick will draft proposed language for recommended practice in case of emergency for the GALs to have in place regarding their records. Board will review at the next meeting.

## **7. Non-Public Session-**

a. Upon the motion of Attorney Paine and the second of Honorable Luneau the Board, by roll call vote, voted to conduct a non-public session at 2:35 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 3:10 p.m. Attorney Paine made a motion to seal the non-public minutes. Honorable Luneau seconded, roll call vote, and motion passes.

**8. Adjournment-** D.Villiotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m. Honorable Luneau seconded, all in favor and meeting adjourned.

a. Next Meeting March 20, 2020