



**MINUTES FOR THE
ARIZONA BOARD OF BARBERS
January 29, 2018**

1. Call to Order

Gary Roberts, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

2. Roll Call

Present: Gary Roberts Marshall Knox
Steve Sandler Ron Thomas
John Lewis

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest Recusal -- A.R.S. § 38-503 -- None

4. Review, Discussion and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

a. Discussion and approval of the Open Session Minutes from the November 27, 2017 Board Meeting

Ron Thomas moved to adopt the minutes. Steve Sandler seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

5. Call to the Public

The call to the public was moved to the end of the agenda due a large number of the audience who wished to address the Board.

6. Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Formal Hearings.

None

7. Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Informal Interviews.

None

8. Consent Agenda for the Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Investigative Reports: Cases recommended for disciplinary consent agreements:

None

9. Report from the Assistant Attorney General – the Board may review and discuss the listed items.

a. House and Senate Bills which may have an impact on the Board

Frankie Eckberg requested that she speak after the Report From the Executive Director.

10. Report from the Executive Director – the Board may review and discuss the listed items:

a. Application forms are now on the website

Some of the applications are now on the website. This building is somewhat more restrictive for licensees because they will be dealing with someone on the first floor. That person may not know how to answer their questions. We feel that a lot of their questions will be answered on the website.

b. Update on 1740 move

We spent the month of December packing for this move. We are spending the month of January unpacking. It may be difficult to secure rooms for meetings or testing because there are fewer rooms and more people to compete for them.

c. Update on Deloitte regarding--e-licensing and the database

A worldwide corporation name Deloitte was picked to implement e-licensing. He thinks the corporation is finding out that this more intricate than they had predicted. The applicant will be inputting a lot of the information on the computer themselves. Even the students will be inputting their own data in regards to their acceptance. The applicant will get a receipt that can be printed.

11. Discussion of items to be placed on a future meeting agenda.

Mr. Roberts said we would come back to this item.

12. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting date will be March 26, 2018.

13. Report from the Assistant Attorney General – the Board may review and discuss the listed items.

a. House and Senate Bills which may have an impact on the Board

Ms. Eckberg said there were six bills at the Legislature that could have an impact on the Board.

HB2062 Gives the Board the opportunity of what rules of evidence they wish to use in our hearings—the federal rules or the administrative rules. This might have more impact on my department than your Board.

HB2065 Discusses what constitutes an “open meeting” and affects the Board members.

SB1184 mandates temporary licenses (18 months) for applicants from some states. This affects every Board in the State.

HB2405 full repeal of the Barber Board

HB2476 and SB1399 Either of these bills would set up an apprenticeship program. The Senate bill would use the standards set by United States Department of Labor apprenticeship. The House bill changes the amount of hours required to get a license.

Mr. Roberts reminded the audience that they could look up these bills at www.azleg.gov. They could also find their legislators and their contact information at this website.

14. Call to the Public

The next meeting date will be March 26, 2018.

15. Call to the Public.

The following people attending this meeting expressed their opinions and concerns:

Kerry Lucero read a letter she was planning to send to the legislators. She does not understand why the Legislature would want to strip approximately 8,000 barbers of their professional status, close approximately 1,700 barber shops, close 30 schools and deny any barber the possibility of becoming licensed in another state unless they take their training over again. Nationally the patronage of barber shops is increasing and so is the popularity of barbering as a profession. In it she expressed her concern as an instructor that the shortened hours would not be adequate to train her students so that they could succeed as barbers. Sanitation education is essential to protect the public from the many diseases that could be transmitted via the personal contact of the barber and his previous clients. Practical training teaches students how to avoid injuring their clients as well as to acquire the knowledge of how to quickly and competently perform the services their clients have requested. She remarked that the apprenticeship program which was before the Legislature was unclear of who would license the apprentice, what the criteria would be for the Sponsor, who would oversee the apprenticeship program for compliance with the requirements, etc. After reading the letter, she urged the audience and the Board to take the initiative to contact the legislators with their views.

The Board moved to Open Session under Item 9 with the approval of Ms. Eckberg. Mr. Roberts summarized the bills and the changes those bills would have on the barbering industry. Mr. Roberts then asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience. HB2405 would do away with the industry. There would be no licenses of any kind or board. A person could cut hair in his driveway without training if he chose. There would be no more sanitation. The Board keeps the industry to a high standard of sanitation. Sanitation which protects the public is most important. HB2405 would repeal the Board, along with any requirements for sanitation. Mr. Stevens hopes that the Legislature will put this before the public and ask for their input. How can you have someone with no experience in this industry make the requirements for this industry without that industry's input. The more people who respond to these bills will mean a greater likelihood the Legislators will listen.

Guillermo Kaphan felt that if the Board is repealed the standards of the barbers and shops will go down also. He said the Board is the reason that many shops keep their standards high. We are an industry who has close ties with each other and we need to urge everyone to respond to these bills.

John Lewis suggested that the Staff send out a letter to all shops and barbers alerting them to the bills.

Blanca Ramirez felt that some shop owners would adopt the attitude that they could pay an apprentice one-half of what a professional barber would earn. They could fire two barbers and get four apprentices. Sanitation is a big concern for her. She has had students come back and ask for referrals to good shops so they could apply there – they say their current shops won't let them clean their tools. In one instance

the former student was forced to finish a shave while the client was bleeding and the Barber's hands were full of blood.

Arthur Knox felt this year was the worst year for attacks on the barber profession. They do not know anything about our industry and our attempts to protect the public.

Kerry Lucero wants to contact some broadcasters and inform them about our profession.

Mr. Thomas urged everyone to get a copy of the entire bill. Start an organization and have a Chairman. Contacting the media is a good idea. Mr. Roberts explained how to read the bills and determine what was being eliminated and what was being added to the law.

Guillermo Kaphan is an instructor and school owner. It is not a job to him but a career. He feels that apprenticeship will water down the industry in the long run.

Barbara Knox asked if a petition for each of the bills would be useful. Mr. Roberts felt this would be a fine idea but we at the Board cannot do it.

Ms. Eckberg suggested Mr. Roberts draft a letter regarding these bills and then mail a copy to the licensees. Mr. Lewis reminded everyone that this is not about haircutting; it is about the health, welfare and safety of the public.

Jim Lenstrohm said he was a traditionalist. If you give an inch, you've begun to lose the artistry of our profession. A barber shop should be just that "a barber shop" not a barber shop that buys gold. He did not receive any announcement of this meeting. He found out about it by a student esthetician and that esthetician has been told by the Cosmetology Board that they can shave faces. We are starting to lose our identity as barbers.

Mr. Sandler asked what is the underlying reason for these bills. What are they trying to accomplish? What can be changed to accomplish Rep. Mosley's goal.

Mr. Barcelona said this administration wants to see people getting out there to work quicker. When he got his barber license he first went to school and then had an 18 month apprenticeship in a barber shop to learn by observation and practice. Then he got his barber license. These bills seem very confusing and don't seem to have a clear idea of what they are designed to accomplish in the training. We can send out letters but we cannot urge anyone to do a specific action except to urge them to let the Legislators know their opinions.

Ms. Eckberg said the Cosmetology Board is also involved in these bills as far as apprenticeships are concerned. If the Board were to be repealed, anyone cutting hair, doing chemical, shaving, etc. might find themselves breaking the law because of the Cosmetology laws.

Martio Harris said it was bigger picture than just us. It seems to be a hit to minority groups. We can help the industry by sending graduates to the state exam that can pass it on the first try. We've got to have the numbers and the voice to be heard.

Diaa Alshmiry said most of his students are refugees. They know nothing about sanitation and must be taught.

Josh Gavlin said he finds the first-year barbers are almost apprentices anyway. How can anyone be sure that the person behind the chair had training if the Board is not there.

The Board directed Staff to get a letter about the bills regarding these bills. Ms. Eckberg said the letter needs to be sent by one person on the Board because of the Open Meetings laws. Mr. Barcelona said he could put links to these bills on the website.

Mr. Barcelona said it appeared that if the apprenticeship program becomes law, he thinks the Board will have to set up rules governing the program and there would be a period of time for the public to make comments and express their opinions about the proposed rules.

The time to express your opinions regarding the bills before the Legislature is NOW.

16. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Thomas moved to adjourn. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

January 29, 2018

Gary Roberts, Chairman

Mary Jane Jones, Secretary