



**BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING CARE INSTITUTION ADMINISTRATORS
AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY MANAGERS**

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Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Jack Confer
Executive Director

Susan Archer, Chairwoman
Rebecca Hill, Subcommittee Member
Pauline (Wally) Campbell, Subcommittee
Member

**MINUTES ONLINE LEARNING
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

August 1, 2022 11:30 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Archer called the meeting to order at 11:36 am.

II. ROLL CALL

Vice President Archer and Member Hill were present.

Member Campbell was absent.

Attendance: Executive Director Jack Confer, Project Specialist Elizabeth Bronold, Nhor Latinovich, Deborah Slater, Karen Barno, Gretchen Jacobs and Kelsie Lane

III. PARTICIPANTS

Nhor Latinovich

Karen Barno

Deborah Slater

Gretchen Jacobs

Kelsie Lane

All participants were in attendance of the meeting.

IV. INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone in attendance of the meeting introduced themselves.

V. DISCUSSION ON ONLINE LEARNING FOR CAREGIVER AND MANAGER TRAINING PROGRAMS

Discussion on the possibility of amending the NCIA Board rules to allow for more options of online learning for Caregiver and Manager Training Programs.

Vice President Archer stated that the emergency order for COVID-19 in the State of Arizona has ended, however, there is still an urgent need for staff in Assisted Living Facilities. She stated that online learning was successful during the pandemic which shows that online training can be an effective way to learn. She opened the floor for discussion.

Executive Director Confer explained that this change in our regulations does not require legislative act or signing of a bill. He stated that we need an approval from the Governor's office for a change in the rules.

Member Hill stated that she is in support of online learning. She stated that we need to focus on the quality of the instruction for caregivers. She hopes this can lead to a larger discussion in terms of quality of content.

Ms. Jacobs stated that she took the 40-hour manager training course and the 62-hour caregiver training course online and both courses exceeded her expectations. She had a great experience with online learning and thinks it is a great option for people who are taking a caregiver or manager training course.

Ms. Barno stated that Arizona ALFA is in support of online learning. It is easier for students to attend the training and allows them to do it at their own pace.

Ms. Slater stated that online training is helpful to those who do not have the resources to make it to class every day.

Ms. Lane stated that Arizona Leading Age is also in support of online learning. She stated that online learning has proven to be effective during the COVID-19 pandemic for Caregiver and Manager training programs, and courses should continue to be offered online.

Executive Director Confer stated that moving to an online learning approach could create unfair competition with on training programs in rural areas that do not have the resources that larger training programs have access to.

Ms. Barno stated that she believes all training programs are going to be able to operate under the potential new rules for online training. She stated that some students are not going to want an online course and they are going to want to go in person, so it is good to have both options available.

Ms. Jacobs stated that her skills training was done online and it was still an effective form of training.

Member Hill expressed concern about the skills training being done online.

Vice President Archer stated it is required that the employer check the skills of the caregivers that they hire.

Member Hill stated that the subcommittee should continue to explore some other issues such as online testing and updating the curriculum requirements for the training programs. She stated that the online learning is not an issue, but the quality of the programs should be discussed at a later meeting.

Executive Director Confer stated that there is an agenda item on each NCIA Board meeting to discuss future items. This allows the opportunity for a Board Member to request in a Board meeting to have certain topics discussed in the future.

Ms. Barno stated that taking a look into the curriculum would take a long time, but moving the testing to fully online would be an easier topic to look into right now.

Ms. Latinovich stated that she believes the content is just right for the caregiver students to learn the basics. She stated that the manager training program is the one that should be amended.

Vice President Archer suggested that we move to the next agenda item and have everyone in attendance can state their recommendation.

VI. FINAL RECOMMENDATION FOR THE BOARD

Final recommendation for the Board. The final recommendation will be presented at the next schedule Board meeting which is August 8, 2022.

Vice President Archer stated that her recommendation is that all 40 hours of the manager training program can be done online and that all 62 hours of the caregiver training program can be done online.

Ms. Barno agreed with Vice President Archer. She stated that when a caregiver is hired the employer could verify the skills and report back to the training school.

Member Hill, Ms. Lane, and Ms. Jacobs agreed to everything being done online.

Ms. Latinovich and Ms. Slater stated that she is in agreeance that everything can be done online, and it is up to the school to ensure the students are getting the proper training.

The final recommendation that will be presented to the Board is that the caregiver training program and manager training program can be offered fully online. There will also be an agenda item on the next Board meeting to discuss testing online and the curriculum for caregiver and manager training programs. The other issues that came up in the meeting will be brought to the Board's attention.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Archer adjourned the meeting at 12:36 pm.

Elizabeth Bronold