

Memo from Nancy Toner Weinberger

First, please note that I **changed our start time to 9:30am**. We have a lot to discuss and with our guest speakers this allows a bit more time, and we can still miss the rush hour traffic.

I put together a quick **webpage** for us with some pertinent docs for background. Please review it BEFORE THE MEETING. And if there is anything you want up there let me know. Whatever is on the website is public, so just be aware of that.

<http://www.coalitionofmbceeducators.com/>

Right now I have it up on my server, but can be easily moved to another server not associated with any of my businesses should we decide to continue. Web hosting varies in price. Right now I have room, so no cost, but I cannot add a Forum to my website for this without going over the bandwidth allowance very quickly. For now we can use Massage and Bodywork Professionals Forum. I have set our group up as a **private forum**, so only members can see posts, and called it **Coalition of Massage & Bodywork CE Educators**. You can speak freely on there. If you start a discussion or participate in one, you can also upload files and documents. I will send everyone an invite, or you can just go there and ask to be a member. <http://www.massageprofessionals.com/> I'll also set up a few discussions based on what I said below.

Email me or go to the forum with any feedback, suggestions or offers of help! I am also looking for someone to do a timeline for us-anyone care to?

I've identified these items for our agenda for the meeting:

9:30 -9:50am	1. Reasons for gathering and plan for the day
9:50-10:20am	2. Background (Summary of recent events and pertinent information)
10:20-11:45am	3. Problems we can identify and possible solutions 4. Possible Future Scenarios regarding license renewal requirements and CE Provider approval.
11:45am-12:30pm	5. Purpose & Structure of this organization a. Do we want an organization? b. If so, who should the members be? (Please refer to Coalition of Massage)

	& Bodywork CE Educators- Who we are)
	6. Communication between ourselves and with other organizations (Forum? Do we need a spokesperson?)
Lunch 12:30-2:00pm	
2:00-2:30pm	7. Address by the NC Board
2:30-3:00 pm	8. Q&A for the Board
3:00-3:50 pm	9. Address by NCB; Q&A
3:50-4:00 pm	10. Conclusion & appreciation

I have identified these Problems for us to discuss for as far as we can get in the limited time available to us. The discussion can continue in the Forum, or in another meeting.

Problem: CE Provider oversight/approval (National Approval is better for CE Providers, but is an issue for state regulatory Boards in terms of reliance on a third-party organization.)

Problem: What is appropriate continuing education for LMBTs and why?

Sub-Problem- Self-Care category.

Sub-Problem- Distance learning vs. in class learning

Problem: Evaluating and maintaining quality in CE.

Course content quality

Sub-Problem: Ethics (the deteriorating worth of courses offered.)

Instructor quality

Problem: Non-practicing LMBTs taking CE to renew their license. Thus looking for cheap credits, could care less- do we want these folks in our classes? (Not practicing could be due to illness/injury, taking care of aging

parents or family members, raising children, going back to school full time for a degree or adding another profession.)

Solution: Eliminate unnecessary CE requirements by allowing the license to be inactive. Charge a small fee, say \$25 and require current address and license every renewal period. Notice sent by email and postcard.

To reinstate: 24 CE live in class hands-on. OR 21 CE live in class hands-on plus 3 hours live class Ethics. And the Jurisprudence exam.

Problem: When does CE become non-productive for 1) protecting the public
2) professional development ?

Suggested solution: Hard to evaluate based on the number of years in practice when we don't allow inactive licensure. A good measure might be 500 total documented hours of massage/bodywork related CE, to include at least 50 hours in advanced (level 2 and higher) studies.

Original Proposal Set Forth for this meeting

1. Discuss what is happening right now that may affect us and our livelihood.
2. Discuss ways to be informed that can minimize use of our individual time. Can we get our facts straight? And separate fact from opinion and rumor?
3. Do we want to come up with some innovative ideas for our own approval process?
4. Do we have questions for NCB, the NC State Board, others that we would like to have answered?
5. Do we have recommendations for what CE licensure renewal requirements should be and why?
6. What should be the shape and scope of this organization? (Can we keep it light and friendly and respectful, and avoid the power struggles and animosities that seem to be abundant in our profession's political organizations right now? Can it serve a focused purpose? Is anyone even interested? How can it be easy and consume as little of our precious time as possible?)