
***State of Louisiana Board of Barber Examiners
Board Meeting Minutes June 23, 2019
Board Office Conference Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana***

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. Present were Board Vice President Alton Broussard, Board Members Kedrian Landrew, Gina Moreau, Cory Dawsey and Executive Director Latrice Matthews. Other guest, Mark Villeneuve, UFCW Local 496.

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve presented the minutes of March 10, 2019.

M/Landrew, 2nd/Dawsey to approve the minutes as read. Mc

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve called for a motion to suspend the regular order of business to hear New Business from barber Nissan Ballard.

M/Landrew, 2nd/Broussard to suspend the regular order of business. Mc

NEW BUSINESS

Nissan Ballard introduced himself as a barber who has been licensed since May 1999, and as a former board member of UFCW Local 496, and a Union member since 1997. Mr. Ballard asked for himself and his mentee Tremaine Walker, a licensed barber of 11 years, to be able to do a self study plan which includes doing a lesson plan and going before the board to receive his instructor's licenses. Mr. Ballard stated that to his knowledge Craig Pollard who studied at Jackson State and has a MBA, went through the program and has called him several times about working with him with getting a lesson plan together. At that time Jimmy Adams was President of the Barber Board. Mr. Ballard stated it was brought to his attention by Executive Director Latrice Matthews that he would have to do an additional 500 hours in a barber college in order to receive his instructor's license. Mr. Ballard asked the board to be grandfathered based upon his knowledge, his years of being a barber, being one of the top apprentices to come out of the program who was brought in and taught by Buddy Christ. Mr. Ballard stated that Mark Villeneuve knows how long he has been in this barber business raising the bar as far as the barbers in the State of Louisiana. Mr. Ballard asked the board could he be grandfathered in to write a lesson plan and take the state examination without taking the course.

Nissan Ballard said he has been approached by two barber school's to come in as an instructor and they wanted to pay him to be a barber instructor; not to reciprocate to get a license, which he said violates barber law. Mr. Ballard said Louisiana Revised Statue 37:362 says no person shall act as an instructor at a barber college and no barber college owner or operator there shall hire or permit any person to act as an instructor at the barber college unless he has a current or valid license of registration as an instructor issued by the board. Mr. Ballard stated I have been illegally approached by several barber colleges to be an instructor, yes I have the knowledge to

be an instructor. Mr. Ballard said Louisiana Revised Statute 37:363 says the board shall issue a certificate of registration as an instructor in a barber college to a person who complies with all the following: Files an application with the board in some form as it may be prescribed accompanied with required fee, I can handle that. Is of good moral character and temperate habits, Mark been knowing me forever, Latrice been knowing me forever. I'm a perfectionist, Kedrian's been knowing me forever. This young man here, I met him at a board meeting, he knows I'm of good character. Holds a diploma, I hold a college degree in Sociology. It say graduated from a barber college, I finished the apprenticeship 20 years ago when Buddy Christ brought me in. I passed the board and I intend on doing the 16 hours annually to keep the instructors license going.

Mr. Ballard stated that his business is growing and he is looking at some other avenues and that he would like to go in with his instructors license to further grow his business and do some other things. Mr. Ballard says he's been behind the chair 20 years and is looking to do some new things. Mr. Ballard stated that he is on the board for the Redevelopment Alliance in Mid City in the Government Street area and that he actually serves on two boards there and that he is looking at growing himself as a professional and he really really wants to bring the barber industry to the next level. Mr. Ballard stated he has created a product line, and a very very high end barber concept that he has been approached by a lot of people to take to different states for franchising.

Mr. Ballard then asked, with all being said, for the mercy of the board to be able to take the instructors examination so that way he can begin training barbers and get into these schools and get some feeders. Mr. Ballard says that he has owned salons since 2001 and has not received one student from a barber school, and every school that he has gone into the barber instructors were always downing the students saying they were too stupid to be in his shop. Mr. Ballard stated that Mark knows he is constantly on him saying he needs some apprentices, and that Mark is looking from some that will fit into his concept but it's been tough. So, Mr. Ballard says, he's going to have to find a way into this system and create a feeder for himself.

Board Member Gina Moreau explained that instructors like Mr. Ballard are what we need, however there are regulations and guidelines that have to be followed. Board Member Moreau stated that when she became a board member that she would have liked to get her instructor's license too, but even she would not be able to do that unless she went back to school. Board Member Moreau stated to Mr. Ballard that yes, we do need you as an instructor, but we also need you to do it the way the guidelines state. Mr. Ballard asked when was it changed. Board President Villeneuve responded, 2010, It was changed August 8, 2010 and that was with Mr. Bobbie Favaron, Mr. Walter Morgan, and Mr. Jimmy Adams. Mr. Ballard replied okay. Board Member Moreau encouraged Mr. Ballard to not give up on that dream and that he would greatly benefit from going through the course.

Board President Villeneuve stated that when you go through the instructor training program, you are actually teaching the students while earning your hours, so whoever offered him to come teach in their school would benefit from him as well. Board President Villeneuve acknowledged that Mr. Ballard has done some incredible things, but the board just cannot allow him to just take the test.

Mr. Ballard asked if the board could vote to change the law and stated that he has a lesson plan with him today and is ready to do what he has to do today to become an instructor. Mr. Ballard stated that right now he is booked solid behind the chair Tuesday through Saturday. To which Board Member Moreau asked him then how was he going to instruct? Mr. Ballard responded that he was going to pull back from the chair and get into the schools and bring other students into his chair and use the school as a feeder, and that he is working on an exit strategy to get from behind the chair. Board Member Moreau questioned Mr. Ballard if he stated he was going to pull students from the school? Yes. Mr. Ballard says that he would like to instruct students because it's a bunch of nepotism going on in these schools and he wants to change the course. Mr. Ballard stated that he has known Mark for a long time and that it was hard for him to step down from the board with Local 496, but that's how much he cares about this industry. Mr. Ballard stated the Kedrian follows him on Facebook and on social media and knows the bar that he is trying to raise for this industry.

Executive Director Matthews explained to Mr. Ballard that a student can't work in a shop and that the board does not have an OJT Program. Executive Director Matthews asked had he ever reported to the office any schools or students doing such things. Mr. Ballard stated he's never reported it and he's kinda been overlooking it but he could. Executive Director Matthews advised Mr. Ballard that if he knew of any wrongdoing, the first thing that should be done is to make a formal complaint in writing to the board.

Board Vice President Alton Broussard introduced himself as a senior member of the board and the Vice President and explained that we are the Louisiana Board of Barber Examiners and whatever vote we do or policies we make has to be for the whole state of Louisiana, not just for one person. Vice President further explained that the board's policies could not be changed for just one person, and that the board has already voted that instructors have to go to school. Board Vice President Alton Broussard recalled an issue involving himself and his barber shop, and stated that he also had to comply with the rules and regulations of the barber board, even with his position of Vice President of this board he couldn't do nothing about it.

Mr. Ballard in conclusion thanked Executive Director Matthews for the opportunity and getting him on the agenda and thanked everybody on the board for hearing his case, and that he thought he had pleaded his case to the fullest of his capabilities. He stated he will continue to move further with the standards of his barber concept and products and that he will continue to move forward.

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve called for a motion for the request by Nissan Ballard to become an instructor by exam only instead of hours and exam.

M/Broussard, 2nd/Moreau All Nay, Motion Failed

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve called for a motion to return to the regular order of business.

M/Landrew, 2nd/Dawsey to return to the regular order of business. Mc

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President Villeneuve reported today was good considering we had tons of people there it went fairly smooth, so thank y'all for all working hard. Board President Villeneuve reported nothing new going on in her area.

M/Landrew, 2nd/Dawsey to approve the President's Report. Mc

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please see attachment.

Executive Director Matthews reported having completed this year's Annual Attestation Audit with no findings.

Executive Director Matthews reported that board is now required by Legislation to implement a Sexual Harrassment Policy which has been done and is on file in the board office.

M/Broussard, 2nd/Dawsey to approve the Executive Director's Report. Mc

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Board Member Gina Moreau reported having extended herself to the barber schools in her area to show them what we're looking for on state board. No one has called but she would like to let them know that she is available on a Monday if needed. Board Member Moreau reported that at today's exam there was a student who did not have a barber jacket and was told that he did not have to have one.

Board Member Cory Dawsey had nothing to report in his area.

Board Vice President Alton Broussard reported one student at today's exam that he was grading cut her model.

Board Member Kedrain Landrew asked if the board members could meet early so they can have little stations as the students come in to watch their shoes, jackets, and make sure they have their models because it's hard once they get in front of the desk for Executive Director Matthews to see everything. Also, the ones bringing extra people should ask them to wait in their cars. Board President Villeneuve said that would be a little hard to do.

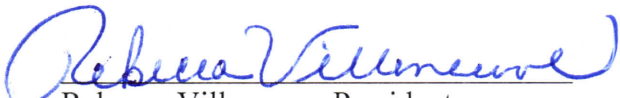
M/Broussard, 2nd/Landrew to approve the Board Member's Report. Mc

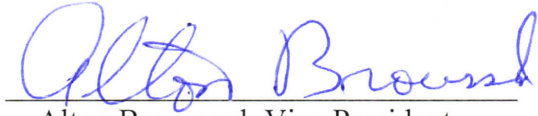
OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

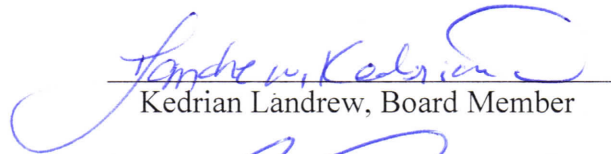
M/Moreau, 2nd/Broussard to approve Old Business. Mc

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

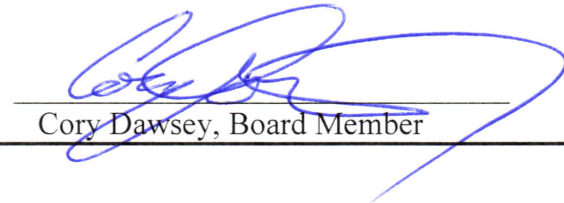

Rebecca Villeneuve, President


Alton Broussard, Vice President


Latrice Matthews, Executive Director


Kedrian Landrew, Board Member


Gina Moreau, Board Member


Cory Dawsey, Board Member
