Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection
Occupational and Professional Licensing
District of Columbia Board of Barber and Cosmetology

MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2026

The District of Columbia Board of Barber and Cosmetology (Board) held its monthly meeting on **Monday, January 5th, virtually via Zoom Teleconference.** In this Public Meeting and Executive Session, the Board discussed old and new business, regulations, complaints, and investigations.

Dr. Anwar Saleem, Board Chair, called the public meeting to order at **10:16 am** and attendance was taken.

Board Members Present: *Dr. Anwar Saleem (Chair), Dr. Richard DeCarlo, Ms. Vonetta Dumas Jennings, Mr. Jared Scott, Ms. Ajia Minnis, Mr. Dennis Smith, , Ms. Whitney McGill, and Mr. Vernon Martin.*

Board Members Absent: *Ms. Korie Booker, Ms. Jared Scott, and Mr. David Cavalcante.*

Staff Members Present: *Ms. Kimberly Troxler (Board Administrator), Ms. Nicole McClendon (Program Manager), Mr. Kevin Cyrus (Education Coordinator) Ms. Irina Moore (Exam Coordinator), A'layza Mitchell (Program Support Specialist), April Randall (Legislative Director), and*

Staff Members Absent:*) Mr. Demetrius Norman (Chief Customer Experience Officer), Mr. Agustin Villadares (Legal Counsel), Shakira Richardson (Program Manager, MOTA), and Jacqueline Noisette (Deputy Administrator).*

Agenda Item: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- **Armenetta Holsey –** Listening as an observer.
- **Amanda Moreno (Nail Saloon) –** Listening as an observer.
- **Marcella Ellis (School of Cosmetic Arts) –** Requesting permission to start an after-school training program for braiders at DCPS.

Agenda Item: EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

We will now go into executive session, which is closed to the public, in order to consult with our attorneys to seek legal advice; to discuss disciplinary matters; and to deliberate upon decisions in adjudication actions and proceedings, as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A), § 2-575(b)(9), and § 2-575(b)(13). We will resume the public portion of the meeting at the conclusion of the executive session. Please stand by for our return if you are participating online.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Richard DeCarlo, and properly seconded by Mr. Dennis Smith, the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session via individual roll call.

Agenda Item: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 1st Meeting Minutes
  Upon a motion made by Dr. Richard DeCarlo and properly seconded by Mr. Dennis Smith, the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes for December 1st with corrections, if necessary.

Agenda Item: APPLICATIONS

- **Alex Anderson CSP40002215** – Requesting approval of Master Esthetician License by Endorsement from Georgia
- **Laneese Bennett COI40000053** – Requesting approval for Cosmetology Instructor License by Endorsement from Pennsylvania

Agenda Item: COMPLAINTS

- None

Agenda Item: CORRESPONDENCE

- None

Agenda Item: BOARD COMMITTEES

- **Legislative Committee**
  - **Rulemaking Update –** Per April Randall, DLCP Legislative Director, the rulemaking for the proposed legislation is currently being reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General. Recommendation to reduce minimum age from 17 to 16 must go through executive process for approval.

- **Education Committee**
  - **IDEA Public Charter School Request to Implement Cosmetology Program Update** – Mr. Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator, received the monitoring plan as requested by the Board. The Board found the plan acceptable. The detailed plan addressed oversight roles, program/curriculum instruction, student attendance, knowledge tracking, facility & safety compliance and monitoring. Mr. Cyrus also received the resume for the instructor. He recommends the program be approved.

- **Examiner's Committee**
  - **Examiners Needed to Proctor Practical Exams –** The committee currently has only one member, Ms. Ajia Minnis. Dr. Anwar Saleem, Board Chair, and Vernon Martin have agreed to serve on the committee. A meeting for next week has been requested.

Agenda Item: OLD BUSINESS

- **Initiatives for Standardization -** New initiative for roadmaps, programs, and standardized youth testing. Meeting to be scheduled (Whitney, Korie Vernon).
- **NIC Conference –** Maryland expressed interest in collaboration with DC for 2027 NIC Conference. Contact required.

Agenda Item: NEW BUSINESS

• **Cosmetology Compact Commission –** Call scheduled for January 22, 2026, at 2 PM. Ms. Troxler to receive link upon notice of interest.
• **Instructor Forum –** Tentatively scheduled for April or May. Dennis and Whitney volunteered to assist.
• **Practitioner Forum –** Target date June 14 or 21. Committee: Jared, Aija, Dennis.
• **Cosmetology License Renewal –** Begins January 15 for cosmetology, specialist, and body artist licenses.
• **Draft Resolution for Training of Incarcerated Persons –** Dr. Saleem introduced Resolution No. 2026-01 supporting the recognition of training and demonstrated competency acquired while incarcerated for licensure purposes.

Agenda Item: REPORTS

- **Practical Exam Report – December 2025**
  Practical exam summary indicates most failures are due to language barriers and lack of proper materials (communication and preparation issues).

Agenda Item: RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Alex Anderson CSP40002215** – Requesting approval of Master Esthetician License by Endorsement from Georgia
  Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Whitney McGill and seconded by Dr. Richard DeCarlo, the Board voted unanimously to approve licensure as a Master Esthetician by endorsement.

- **Laneese Bennett COI40000053** – Requesting approval for Cosmetology Instructor License by Endorsement from Pennsylvania
  Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Dennis Smith and seconded by Dr. Richard DeCarlo, the Board voted unanimously to approve licensure as a Cosmetology Instructor by endorsement.

Agenda Item: ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Ended at **11:19 am**

- *Upon a motion, duly made by Dr. Richard DeCarlo and properly seconded by Mr. Dennis Smith, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Anwar Saleem

Dr. Anwar Saleem, Board Chair

February 2, 2026

Date

Minutes Recorded & Prepared by: Ms. Kimberly Troxler, DLCP/OPL Board Administrator