



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2016 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Lori Nester (Chair, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (secretary), Jennifer Foster (Treasurer), Stephanie Carroll (R7 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Mary Burton (R6 Rep).

Excused: Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Sylvia Ellison (R2 Rep), Jill Davis (R4 Rep).

Approval of Minutes: The May 11 2016 minutes were accepted as submitted. The notes from the June 5 General Meeting were reviewed and recommended to be shared via the OBA website as a valuable way to share the information from Tina Cardarelli's presentation, and the ideas shared from others at the meeting.

A discussion of the information at the Ban the Bags website (<http://banthebags.org/bag-free-hospitals/>) opened the meeting, as the map information is out of sync with the information gathered by the Ohio First Steps program and those hospitals recognized for being formula gift bag-free through that program. Mary needs historical information about when Akron General went bag-free in order to submit that to the website's program, and asked if others in the state had any details about this for her to use. OLCA may have this information in their meeting minutes.

Jennifer and Stephanie are still transitioning the treasurer duties, so there is no current treasurer's report. Ann asked about the card number to use on the bank account for the web hosting and domain renewal services, and Jennifer thought the current information should be ok.

Lori asked for regional reports. Terri Rutz and Sylvia Ellison from Regions 1 and 2 are seeking replacement representatives for those regions.

Regions across Ohio had World Breastfeeding Week and National Breastfeeding Month celebrations planned. NOLA held their annual Milk Run and this event went well; it raises money for human milk banks. Libby reported that at the NE Ohio Breastfeeding Coalition meeting, they are exploring the development of a prenatal risk assessment form for breastfeeding. Others shared resources that may already have forms like this that can be used as models.

Jennifer shared anecdotally that a breastfeeding group in Memphis had a walk event and their corporate sponsor was Hooters, which worked very well for fundraising and recognition, so interesting partners for fundraising can work well. Mary and Jennifer reported that Region 6 held a World Breastfeeding Week baby shower through the Summit County Health Department.

In Region 7, Stephanie reported a Big Latch On was held and a spaghetti lunch will also be held. The Appalachian Breastfeeding Coalition will be holding a Roundtable this month, and is growing, as it now has 53 members across the region including states of VA, TN, KY, WVA and OH. Stephanie will be attending a conference in KY this month and sharing cultural perspectives about Appalachia that impact

breastfeeding and use of breastmilk substitutes. The Southeast Ohio Breastfeeding Coalition (SEOBC) is using their Facebook page to share news about breastfeeding-friendly businesses in their region.

The recognition of breastfeeding-friendly businesses prompted a discussion regarding an email received asking about data from any programs providing recognition and awards for employers who have breastfeeding-friendly practices regarding lactation support, pumping, onsite breastfeeding and/or child care, and other programs that support breastfeeding employees. That information was forwarded by Jennifer to Diane Brogan Turner at Ohio Department of Health, which formerly had such a program and is talking of reviving it. OBA is a natural partner for such a program and will work to be involved.

The creation of an online database supporting the needs of the NE Ohio Breastfeeding Coalition was discussed. Lori had a sample database to test at a link forwarded to board members. Ann suggested that the services data be broken down more into different fields to allow future improvements in searches to allow clients to find specific services rather than having to scroll through all entries by location.

Lori and Jennifer shared their experiences from the USBC National Breastfeeding Coalitions Conference in Washington DC. They shared that they had a lot of information to process that will help change their approach to breastfeeding as a public health issue, and information to bring into other conversations. Jennifer got positive feedback from CDC officials for the progress Ohio has made on several fronts in supporting breastfeeding as implementation of evidence-based practices becomes more widespread across different services, agencies and organizations.

It was shared that new guidelines on safe sleep are forthcoming from the American Academy of Pediatrics. No specifics were known about what would be included.

Jennifer shared that West Virginia just passed a law on public breastfeeding and that the OBA toolkit was shared with representatives from that state.

Lori asked about bylaws work. Ann and Mary will work to move the committee work forward on this revision plan.

The board looked forward to the December Infant Mortality conference in Cleveland. Jennifer has submitted several presentation proposals and is waiting to hear back on their acceptance. She may need help presenting them if more than one are accepted. The OBA board is interested in exhibiting again, so planning for that event is needed.

Lori shared news from Ohio WIC that Gerber, a Nestle company, is now the contracted provider for formula for WIC. Gerber formula is not known to be kosher or halal so there may be some problems in implementing this change for some cultures. Lansinoh being included in materials distributed by Ohio WIC for Breastfeeding Awareness Month was discussed as a problem issue. Gerber is trying to increase hospital contracts, but Jennifer reports Summa Health Systems will not switch.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, September 11, 2016