



## **Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health***

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Meeting Minutes for August 9, 2017 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Michelle Catersino (R4 Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (LLOH Rep, Secretary), Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), Stephanie Carroll (R7 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Mary Burton (Vice Chair, R6 Rep), Debbi Smith-Moore (ABN Rep).

Not Present: Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Sylvia Ellison (R2 Rep).

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for June 14 2017 were accepted without corrections or additions, and will be posted to the website.

**Treasurer Report:** Lori reported we have a balance of over \$4000.00 in the bank account, some of that is in restricted accounts. Lori is still sorting out paperwork with the bank and with PayPal to transfer control to herself. Lori is planning to keep notes about the transfer from one treasurer to a new one, to include in the Policies and Procedure Manual for when this transfer needs to take place again.

**USBC National Coalitions Conference Report:** Stephanie and Mary attended the USBC National Coalitions Conference August 2-4, and brought their reports back to the group. Stephanie shared her thoughts on the diversity focus of the conference. USBC elected its first black president of the board, and the population of the conference reflected a more diverse membership. The topics of the conference addressed personal bias and gaining perspectives for other cultures and classes. Stephanie noted that a challenge for OBA would be to create a more diverse board membership. It was suggested and discussed to pull in African-American representatives who are involved in promoting breastfeeding among black populations. There is at least one person in Ohio who is interested in starting a ROSE chapter, and it was suggested that if a ROSE chapter was created, they could be invited to be an at-large member on the OBA board. It was also suggested to reach out to Julie Ware who is working towards reaching diverse and underserved populations in her area of Cincinnati. Julie is organizing a follow-up conference after an initial conference last spring, focusing on underserved and disparate populations, include people of color, Appalachian, and others. Jennifer noted that ODH is also making an effort in this direction as a underserved populations subgroup that is part of the breastfeeding workgroup, and that it would be valuable for all these groups to work together. Libby offered that a African-American midwife in the Cleveland coalition is taking a WIC position and will be in a prime position to help with this effort. Stephanie and Lori will follow up with this topic.

Mary's report on her conference experience described the different atmosphere at this conference, being on a smaller scale with fewer vendors, more diversity in attendees and breakouts focusing on diversity topics instead of coalition building. It was noted that this conference got off to a later start with funding and planning, which may account for part of the change. Mary connected with a member of Michigan's breastfeeding coalition, who is also the breastfeeding coordinator for Michigan, Marji Cyrul, who is heading up a merger of breastfeeding webinars across Great Lakes area coalitions. Mary also was able to attend the Breastfeeding Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill the day after the conference.

### **Committee Task Force Reports**

Childcare (Ann): no updates, still waiting to hear about ODH leadership on this topic within the breastfeeding workgroup. Jennifer is not sure that ODH will actually partner with us on that, but may go on with their own work. It was discussed to partner with a university with students who can contribute hours, grant resources, and footwork that may benefit their curriculum as well. Libby noted that NICHQ is working with five states on a child care project. It isn't known if anyone in Ohio applied or would have been eligible to apply. Libby noted that there is a state-wide childcare board, the Childcare Advisory Council, who may be an appropriate resource or partner, which works under the Department of Jobs and Family Services.

First Steps (Jennifer): Applications for a new round of recognition were due on July 1<sup>st</sup>, so new applications are in progress. First Steps will continue their webinars after a summer break.

Nursing In Public (Ann): no updates; also there has been no response from the Cleveland museums regarding the donation solicitation initiated by Libby.

### **Regional Reports/Local Coalitions/ Members at Large:**

We will have a new format for regional and state-wide reporting. Representatives are asked to submit a report in advance of the meeting so that the reports can be added to the meeting minutes. The reports can also be summarized into a Facebook post to be shared by OBA. Please forward any reports to both Jennifer and Ann so this new format can succeed.

Region 1:

Region 2: From Sylvia Ellison: In Region 2, Breastfeeding Institute at Wright State U has recently started free breastfeeding training workshops for healthcare providers. This is an effort developed as part of the ODH MCH grant to Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County. The workshops are being coordinated and led by Linda Smith.

Region 3:

Region 4:

Region 5:

Region 6:

Region 7: Stephanie sent a report to Jennifer for her region.

LLL Ohio: From Ann Davis: Hosted a BLO/LiveLoveLatch event at The Greene, on August 5<sup>th</sup>. LLL had about 7 LiveLoveLatch events across Ohio scheduled for NBM.

OLCA: next meeting 9/16/17. Annual Conference, Breastfest, March 16-17, 2018.

Appalachian Breastfeeding Network:

**Policies and Procedures Manual:** Ann has created a Google Docs folder for OBA PPM work, with several files that are resources as well as documents under construction. The link is

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B9dtLtGXA7-7NGIGODRhWNETG8>

How to move work forward on the PPM was discussed. It was agreed that Ann will spearhead the editing effort by initiating sections of work via email. In-person work sessions have also been effective, but participation may not be high because of distance and schedule problems. Lori and Ann will investigate in-person work sessions. Some board members are not available for in-person sessions but are available to work via email. Part of the PPM discussion should focus on starting up committees, as well as networking and talking to members about doing committee work for OBA.

Lori agreed to send out a Doodle poll to see if we can arrange a better time or times for board calls or meetings. It was suggested that changing up times so that those who can't make some times can make others may help facilitate participation.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, on September 19, 2017.