



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2018 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Michelle Catersino (R4 Rep), Ann Davis (LLLOH Rep, Secretary), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep).

Not Present: Debbi Smith-Moore (ABN Rep), Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Sylvia Ellison (R2 Rep), Stephanie Carroll (R7 Rep), Mary Burton (Vice Chair, R6 Rep).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for December 2017 were accepted by consensus. A discussion about how to handle regional reports was further clarified by stating that reports should be sent to the Secretary as well as to the Chair, for inclusion as an addendum to the minutes. Jennifer will also be seeking clarification on Debbi Smith-Moore's position on the board, as she has told Jennifer she is not able to attend meetings.

Treasurer Report: Lori gave a summary of the state of the treasury. She is integrating leftover funds from grants allotted to capacity building and continuity of care into the general funds, with permission from USBC, the grantor. Current balance: \$4419.64 all total. Continuity of Care grant remainder: \$1273.56, Capacity Building remainder: \$178.55, Paramount donation: \$125.00 (targeted towards uses not allowed by other funds). Use of the remainder grant funds will still be conducted in line with the original intent. The possibility of having an audit conducted was discussed.

Committee Task Force Reports

Childcare (Ann): Libby shared the results of her meeting with Camille Verbofsky of Early Ages, Healthy Stages in Cuyahoga County, which aims to improve child care services in that county. Libby and Camille discussed ways that EA/HS and the Northeast Ohio Breastfeeding Coalition can work together as a possible pilot project for the childcare subgroup. EA/HS is getting funding from ODH through the Cuyahoga County Health Department, which is funding that Libby was interested in tapping for breastfeeding support, so this partnership provides that. EA/HS does a presentation for childcare providers which includes 8-10 slides on breastfeeding, that they are asking for input on to update their content and to provide training on presenting the information. Other goals that were discussed were recommendations for policies to support their existing program, developing a breastfeeding-friendly designation for employers and/or businesses, developing an assessment tool for breastfeeding friendly childcare environments and being able to present a decal or cling showing a center is breastfeeding friendly, and collaborating on events like the Milk Run. EA/HS and NEObfC will share resources at their next meeting on March 20th. Libby also discussed efforts to ramp up breastfeeding support through infant mortality organizations like Cleveland First. Libby would be specifically targeting employer support for breastfeeding families. Jennifer remarked that she wanted the breastfeeding support subgroups including the childcare effort to know that it took 4 years for the main group to get Ohio First Steps off the ground, and to keep working as it may take time for results to appear. Libby was encouraged that contacts and links with other groups with funding are coming together and coalescing around breastfeeding support. It was suggested that perhaps Camille would come to speak about childcare concerns at the next General Meeting, and Libby and Lori will gather information for that

purpose. It is hoped that Camille can also help us understand EA/HS governance structure and where they originated from, if they are private or public, etc.

First Steps (Jennifer): More hospitals have applied, and Jennifer feels the group is reaching almost all hospitals across Ohio with maternity services. 12 more Ban the Bags applications have been received as well. One of the barriers to hospitals moving to participating in Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative has been the cost and logistics of providing training in the hospital, and First Steps is going to create “train the trainer” programs to help provide an educator in the hospitals who can provide that in-hospital training. A 20 hour education program will be provided through ODH, and the training attendance will be tracked for the hospitals by ODH.

Nursing In Public (Ann): Lori has been including the toolkit as a resource when she is talking to businesses about providing lactation support for employees as a way to include customer lactation support as well in their thinking and policy creation.

Policy and Procedures Manual: Documents from the working meeting Feb. 21st will be online for review at <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B9dtLtGXA7-7NGIGODRhbwNETG8>

General Meeting: Jennifer and Lori will work together to find a date and location for the next General Meeting, hopefully to be able to publicize at Breastfest. As mentioned above, Camille Verbofsky will be contacted as a potential speaker.

Regional Reports/Local Coalitions/ Members at Large:

Region 1: no report

Region 2: no report

Region 3: no report

Region 4: Michelle made contact with the new Franklin County Health Commissioner, who is interested in infant mortality issues and how they overlap with breastfeeding. Celebrate One is a program in Franklin County addressing infant mortality rates, and who has a strong amount of money for research. One of their topics for research is funding the study of improved housing security for expectant mothers, and a component on breastfeeding is included. One possible target is education for community health workers. This may mirror a course given in the Cleveland area that Lydia Furman participated in, and Jennifer and Libby will help Michelle reach that information to forward to Franklin County. Sleep related deaths in Franklin County have gone down, but Black and Hispanic IM rates remain high, so they are looking at other possibilities. How detailed information about infant feeding and infant mortality cases is gathered was also discussed, and how that impacts research and statistics.

Region 5: no report

Region 6: no report

Region 7: no report

Appalachian Breastfeeding Network: Jennifer has heard from Debbi that she can't participate fully as an ABN rep. It's not clear if she's resigning or asking to be replaced, so Jennifer will talk to Debbi about that, and get input from ABN about possible replacement candidates. Jennifer initiated a larger discussion about board makeup with members-at-large. No decisions were reached about including other organizations or continuing to work with ABN since their reach extends beyond Ohio and addresses a specialty area. Changing the mix of members-at-large was briefly discussed but no conclusions reached. Governance information was shared as to what the bylaws state about replacing Debbi and including new candidates in the election through the Nominating Committee headed by the Vice-Chair.

LLL Ohio: no report

OLCA: Breastfest, March 16-17, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, on March 13, 2018.