



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

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Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2014, Board Conference Call, beginning at 12 noon

Present: Sylvia Ellison (chair), Ann Davis (secretary), Jennifer Foster (Treasurer), Lori Nester (R3 Rep), Terri Rutz (R1 Alternate), Mary Burton (R6 Rep).

Not Present: Krystal Bowden (R7 Rep), Dee Keith (R1 Rep), Terri Hazen (R5 Rep), Pam Edenfield (R6 Alternate).

Approval of Minutes: Ann presented the meeting minutes from the October 21 Board conference call. Mary motioned to approve the minutes as drafted, and Terri Rutz seconded the motion. Sylvia called for the vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

Legal Review for Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws: Ann and Sylvia have been unable to come up with a pro bono legal resource. Jennifer will meet with the University of Akron's law clinic for small businesses in January, to see if they can assist us with legal review for our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Other potential legal resources were discussed. Lori Nester volunteered to check on the law clinic at Ohio Northern University in Bluffton, Ohio, to see if they can help us. It was agreed that we should not jump from clinic to clinic but should try to establish a relationship with a clinic that can help us on an ongoing basis. If ONU's clinic is free or cheaper than U of A, it may be worth considering establishing a relationship there. Jennifer also mentioned that an ODH Chronic Disease Prevention group also recently went through a similar process of setting up Articles and Bylaws and may be able to offer pointers or resources.

Questions about the current bylaws and their impact on OBA work were raised, most especially the impact on holding elections. In October, Megan Renner had raised questions as to whether OBA election practices relating to the Leadership Board were in accordance with Ohio law. As the elections needed to be held in April-May are for Executive Committee officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer), there was consent that possible conflicts for selection of Leadership Board members do not necessarily interfere with electing officers.

Continuity of Care Project Report: Terri reported that Jennifer took on and completed the community survey for Akron, and that Libby Svoboda will complete the community survey for Cleveland. Donna Walls has completed the community surveys for Columbus and Cincinnati. Terri asked how the work plans will be implemented and who will be responsible for each workplan in each city/area. She was unclear of how her role as project manager continued into the workplan phase. It was agreed that Terri will consult with Emily at USBC for more input on how to move forward with the workplans.

Capacity Building Project Report: Lori reported that she is continuing to communicate with Tina Carderelli to see how we can work together on board building and learning. It was agreed that a remote session with all board members together and Tina in a remote location would still be a good alternative in order to move forward with the work the board needs to do in order to refocus and rebuild OBA. Different locations that could be reserved for meetings were discussed, with no conclusions decided.

Treasurer Report: Jennifer reported our current assets as \$3299.96 in our checking account. Jennifer is drafting a budget based on input she has received from board members and will send out that draft to all.

Next Meeting: It was agreed that we should plan a General Meeting to be held in conjunction with Breastfest in order to encourage attendance by OBA stakeholders attending Breastfest. More information about the Breastfest program was needed in order to determine the best time for the OBA meeting. It was noted that we still need to get input from Terri Hazen as to when we can hold regular conference calls, as she is not available at our regular second Monday call time.

Sylvia requested a motion to adjourn; Lori motioned to adjourn, seconded by Terri Rutz, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary  
March 10, 2014