



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2017 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Lori Nester (Chair, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (secretary), Jennifer Foster (OLCA Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Jill Davis (R4 Rep).

Not Present: Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Sylvia Ellison (R2 Rep), Stephanie Carroll (Treasurer, R7 Rep), Mary Burton (R6 Rep).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the December 16 2016 board call were accepted with no changes, and will be posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report: Stephanie now has online access to OBA accounts and she and Jennifer will be conducting a review of the accounts and issue a final report in February. Jennifer gave a general overview of 2016 finances, with estimated expenses at \$2300.00 and revenue at \$715.00. Jennifer called attention to the disparity between money coming in and money going out, the drop in memberships, and asked for the board's attention to increasing revenue to match program and organizational needs. Libby asked if there is any possibility of partnering with OLCA for a membership drive. Other suggestions included offering incentives, perks or discounts in cooperation with OLCA for partnered support of OBA. Suggestions were also raised for putting on a seminar or workshop as a fundraiser, or putting together webinars as a revenue source.

Ohio First Steps and Ohio Chronic Disease Collaborative partnership: Jennifer reported on her work with Ohio First Steps and OCDC. Since Dr. Wapner left as director of OCDC to take a job at OSU, he has not been replaced, and Ohio Department of Health has now decided not to replace him and to table the work of the collaborative. However, ODH wants to continue the work of the breastfeeding portion of the collaborative, and bring it into the Ohio First Steps effort, which began as a derivative of the OCDC breastfeeding group. Ohio First Steps and ODH are now looking at the goal of improving breastfeeding rates at the 6 month mark, and targeting child care facilities and support and education for breastfeeding families within those settings. ODH is asking us to help address child care education efforts for breastfeeding. ODH is working on a structure to continue the work of the entire breastfeeding workgroup, that would include Ohio First Steps. ODH would like to also address underserved populations and involve fathers/partners, and to include an effort being addressed by Julie Ware MD (Cincinnati Children's) to start up a breastfeeding hotline similar to what she spearheaded in Tennessee in her work with their state coalition. ODH also wants to maintain an emphasis on chronic disease prevention through breastfeeding. As a stakeholder in the Ohio Chronic Disease Plan, the Ohio Early Childhood Health Network (<http://www.ohioearlychildhoodhealthnetwork.org/about-us.html>) is a potential partner for creating a breastfeeding committee through ODH, and national resources may be available through such a partnership. Jennifer asked if we can put a notice on the website asking for OBA members interested in joining the effort on improving breastfeeding support in child care settings, and Ann will follow up with this.

Jennifer asked about establishing committees to carry out projects and programs, including a committee that can assist with membership and/or fundraising, and for publicity. It was emphasized that recruiting members for committee positions needs to be done in person, or one to one, since wide general appeals for committee members have not been fruitful. Lori mentioned that OBA will have a table at Breastfest and our presence there can be used to address some of these issues. Lori intends to also include information and representation from local coalitions at Breastfest as well. Drafting letters and materials for membership and fundraising was discussed, but no assignments made, except that Libby will follow up with the groups she presented to about nursing in public in the Cleveland area about possibly donating to OBA in exchange for continuing education on breastfeeding support for public venues.

Jennifer talked about the follow up on the Daddy Boot Camp incident at the Infant Mortality Summit in December. Jennifer spoke to Steve Kilpark who supervises DBC in Ohio about the training dad coaches are receiving about breastfeeding. Steve wants hospitals to be required to include dads on the Baby Friendly plans, requesting ODH to have stronger language to include dads. This presents challenges to ODH and to hospitals as BFHI objectives do not specify fathers or gendered partners. Steve also says that each Daddy Boot Camp is set up differently. OBA is asking Daddy Boot Camp to make sure that those in Ohio are breastfeeding-friendly and WHO Code compliant. Daddy Boot Camp is a national organization (<http://www.bootcampfornewdads.org/>) so training for coaches and dads would need to be altered on that level. Libby told the board that the Daddy Boot Camp presenter at the IMS works with her, and is educated about breastfeeding, and was concerned with the reaction to his comments, as he is himself breastfeeding friendly, but was taken off guard.

Lori contributed that she is doing a presentation about the OBA database at a Friday First Steps webinar on the 13th of January. Libby asked if Lori can also do a membership push at that time. Lori also shared that Stephanie has a new IBCLC position at a local hospital in her area, and about upcoming CLC training workshops.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, February 7, 2017