



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2016 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Lori Nester (Chair, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (secretary), Jennifer Foster (Treasurer), Mary Burton (R6 Rep), Jill Davis (R4 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Stephanie Carroll (R7 Rep).

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

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes for the July 8 2015 and December 9 2015 Board Calls were approved with a minor correction to change “Meeting” to “Board Call” in the minutes section. There being no other changes, the minutes were accepted with this correction, and will be posted to the OBA website.

Treasurer’s Report: No official report this meeting.

Driving Park Support Group: Lori received a list of materials and books needed by this group and to be funded by OBA. Jennifer stated that Jill should submit that to Terri and Terri will forward it to her for release of funds, since the funds have already been approved by the board. The method for disbursement was discussed, whether OBA will order the materials or release funds directly to the group, and Jill will check with Rachel Shain in order to find out her preference.

Lori reviewed the status of the project to update the online forms for membership that Darryl is helping to build for the website. These have been tested, and Lori asked board members to check the way the forms look and work on mobile devices. Once testing is finished, those forms will be added to the website.

Lori also reviewed the status of creation of a newsletter for OBA, and shared a draft, promoting involvement by individuals and coalitions, sharing resources, Ohio First Steps, and news about the changes to the USBC website. She hopes to have this ready to release and send out soon. Lori asked about using the USBC website resources, and Ann discussed the hope of using that resource as a discussion center for OBA, since the Yahoo group has closed.

Ban the Bags Project: Jennifer updated the board about the status of the Ban the Bags program under Ohio First Steps, to recognize hospitals that have eliminated gift bags that violate the WHO Code. The website for signups is not yet live. Ann asked about the EMPower project, which follows the path of the Best Fed Beginnings program, since that website doesn’t seem to be complete yet, and Ann could not find a list of the hospitals enrolled. Hospitals are enrolled in this program and it is moving forward. Jennifer discussed contacting hospitals to find out what their current resources are, where they are in terms of implementing any part of BFHI objectives, and what kind of assistance or resources they might need. Lori has a database of Ohio hospitals in Google Docs. Jennifer suggested having a copy of the Ohio First Steps application when calling hospitals as a checklist of things to ask about. The application is a self-assessment tool, so it can be used by anyone to help the hospital gather that information and gain perspective, even if they don’t end up applying for Ohio First Steps. In Ohio, there are only two hospitals

in the EMPOWER program, Akron General and University Hospitals Elyria in Cleveland. Interest was expressed as to what other hospitals are in the program outside of Ohio. Jennifer will find out from other Ohio First Steps committee members when the website will be updated with the Ban the Bags information. In a survey that was sent out to hospitals, most indicated they needed help with Steps 2 and 3. Contacting the hospitals in each region can begin any time by regional representatives, Jennifer said, and that information would be appreciated. Jennifer has developed a script, and that will be resent to board members. Lori suggested using the tool when attending other meetings or gatherings with those who work in the local hospitals, and that asking any staff about getting involved in the program if they are not already enrolled, or they can be asked about their progress (which is noted on the website) to help ask about their needs in moving forward. Libby shared that Elyria Health Department received a grant from NACCHO via the CDC for a support group alongside the EMPOWER program for UH Elyria.

Lori updated the board about planning for the June General Meeting and coalition gathering. Lori is still following up with possible speakers and potential locations. Using USBC capacity building funds for this project was discussed, and Lori had received clarification that those funds can be used for meeting such as this.

Jill met an IBCLC in her area who has worked with Sherry Payne, a midwife in Missouri who runs an outreach/support/training facility at Uzazi Village, and also works with the Chocolate Milk breastfeeding support group model. The IBCLC that Jill met was able and willing to provide a presentation on working with and mentoring women of color for qualifying for IBCLC certification, and also addressing tongue tie issues. Jill will get more information about what can be offered, as she is in Ohio for a limited amount of time. Lori suggested other local coalitions might be interested in hosting her presentation, if she is leaving Ohio before our June meeting.

Bylaws Committee: There being no member meeting until June, the committee will continue to work on the Policies and Procedure Manual and any discussion on the proposed bylaws revisions, since a vote of the membership is needed to adopt the bylaws revisions. Lori will work on scheduling a meeting with the ONU law clinic intern to get their input on the current revisions draft.

OLCA Breastfest: OBA can set up a display at Breastfest, and means of doing this were discussed. More information will be coming.

Business cards: Lori is exploring some funding from the Allen County Breastfeeding Coalition that might cover the cost of producing business cards. Lori will send around a draft of the business card. She is considering two versions, one with information for the NIP Toolkit, and one a general business card.

NIP Toolkit: Having the toolkit ready for presentation at Breastfest was discussed, as well as doing trainings at the June meeting; people could sign up at Breastfest to do the training in June at the meeting. Ann suggested pulling together a committee for that by appointing the chair and asking that chair to recruit members and move forward. Ohio WIC has been considering NIP materials and training, but it doesn't sound like that is moving forward very quickly, so we may be able to offer our materials to them.

Elections: Jennifer asked about elections scheduling, to ensure those would be moving forward. Elections for the Leadership Board need to be held for regional and at-large members, and the Leadership Board will hold Executive Committee elections in March-April.

The Northeast Ohio Breastfeeding Coalition is still interested in having a resource page available online for its area, and OBA needs to work on making this happen. Libby would like to show the video to the coalition as a way of discussing support for OBA and participating in OBA work. Ann will send Libby the video or a link to the video for this purpose.

With no other business presented on the table, the meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, February 9, 2016