



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2018 Board Meeting, 10 am

Present: Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (LLLOH Rep, Secretary), Michelle Catersino (R4 Rep), Stephanie Carroll (ABN Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Misha Trescott (R7 Rep).

Not Present: Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Andrea Schlueter (R2 Rep), Mary Burton (Vice Chair, R6 Rep).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for April 16, 2018 (special call to accept nominations and open election), were accepted by consensus, and will be posted to the OBA website. The minutes for the April 20, 2018 board meeting were also accepted by consensus, with the correction of adding Libby Svoboda to the attendance roll.

Treasurer Report: deferred to budget discussion.

The board welcomed new members, Mishelle Trescott, representing Region 7, and Andrea Schlueter, representing Region 2, elected to the board in the previous month. Mishelle is also a member of the ABN board, and is work-from-home parent. Andrea is a CLC working as a WIC Peer Counselor in NW Ohio.

Executive Committee elections: The following people were nominated for positions on the Executive Committee:

Chair: Jennifer Foster

Vice Chair: Mary Burton

Treasurer: Lori Nester

Secretary: Ann Davis

A motion was given to present these nominees for election as a slate, 1st by Jennifer Foster, 2nd by Lori Nester. The motion was passed unanimously.

A vote was taken on the slate, and the candidates were elected unanimously to their respective positions.

During the discussion, Ann asked for more participation in the social media work that OBA needs, and Libby volunteered to help support this need. Any others who are interested can also let Ann know if they would like to participate in social media publicity and communication.

Budget: Lori presented a draft of the proposed budget for the 2018 fiscal year. The proposed budget was adopted by consensus, and a copy will be attached to these minutes.

PPM: Lori is in the process of speaking with the ONU law clinic intern to review parts of our adopted PPM, and will get back with the board on those results.

Membership Lists: After discussion, it was decided that the membership lists will be shared among the board members in order for them to know who they are serving in their regions and state-wide. Ann will send those lists around to the board.

Committee Task Force Reports

Childcare (Ann): Ann is planning to attend the OECHN strategic planning meeting on May 22, if anyone else is interested in participating, please contact Ann for information. OECHN is the organization that is supporting the child care initiative that OBA is spearheading under their breastfeeding subcommittee.

First Steps (Jennifer): More hospitals are sending in applications for this year's round of First Steps acceptance. Jennifer reported that skills training and toolkit creation to support Step 2 fulfillment is going on, and has been well-received. Later in May, webinar training will be available to further support Step 2 training.

Nursing In Public (Ann): OBA was contacted by a mother who felt the Aurora Outlet Mall near Cleveland was not supportive of breastfeeding, and Lori fielded the inquiries around this. The mother was not discriminated against, not told not to breastfeed, but felt the mall did not offer appropriate options or facilities for breastfeeding. Lori spoke with the mother and mall representatives to offer education on nursing in public and supporting families, including info about the Mamavia nursing pods that could be placed in the mall similar to how they are used in airports.

Regional Reports/Local Coalitions/ Members at Large:

Region 1: no report

Region 2: no report

Region 3: no report

Region 4: Michelle Catersino: I had a great opportunity to attend a screening event and panel discussion hosted by ROOTT <https://www.roott.org/> discussing racial inequities in maternal and infant mortality. ROOTT (Restoring our own through transformation) is a local non-profit doula program that serves women of color. They are modeled after the Ancient Song Doula Services program in Brooklyn, NY. <https://www.ancientsongdoulaservices.com/> There was a great discussion around perinatal health care access and the long term implications on maternal health outcomes. How does implicit bias affect the care that women receive? I realize this falls on the border of lactation issues in the eyes of some. However, I feel that by understanding other perspectives on the whole birth and parenting experience I am better able to see how breastfeeding education and lactation support fit into the broader plane of addressing public health needs. I also learned about Black Mamas Matter Alliance and some of the social justice work they are doing on behalf of black women. Here's an excerpt from their webpage describing a tool kit they offer:

The Black Mamas Matter toolkit is a resource for advocates who are concerned about the health and well-being of black women and girls. It takes a human rights based approach to maternal health, identifying the rights of pregnant and birthing parents and the corresponding role of government to ensure safe and respectful maternal health care for all. First released in June 2016, the toolkit was produced by the Center for Reproductive Rights in partnership with members of the Black Mamas Matter Alliance. You can visit their website at <https://blackmamasmatter.org/resources/toolkits/>

Region 5: no report

Region 6: no report

Region 7: Misha Trescott: SEOBC held a training in the region for NAS, with an MD from Southeastern Medical came in to talk about practices, and there was an IBCLC review course conducted by Linda

Smith, to help prep participants for the exam. Stephanie Carroll won an emerging Leader award from USBC for her work with ABN. Congrats Stephanie!

Appalachian Breastfeeding Network: Stephanie Carroll: ABN has contracted with Noble County Health Department to continue the After Hours Breastfeeding Helpline until September 30, 2018 through an ODH grant. ABN is using part of this money to host a CLS training in Rio Grande, OH for new hotline trainees, expanding the lactation professionals in the SE region of Ohio.

ABN continues to work on their hospital education initiative; first module on Supplementation is complete. 13 other topics have outlines and objectives completed; working on fundraising to continue work on this project.

ABN hosted a "Second Chance Prom" as a fundraiser and raised \$6,450 to be used on the Hospital Education Initiative and the 2nd Annual Appalachian Breastfeeding Conference.

ABN's 2nd Annual Breastfeeding Conference will be held in Glouster, OH this year on October 12 and will focus on the "hard" topics such as racism, birth trauma, sexual abuse, domestic violence, and opioid addiction. Registration is open and early bird pricing continues until June 30.

ABN's board is continually expanding and has reached as far south as Georgia. ABN has 20 board members now and over 400 members.

ABN is working on a Hospital Adoption Program grant proposal.

ABN is also working on a social media campaign, Empower Mom Movement, which currently has a presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

ABN is also working on a Home Visitor Education Program, similar to the Hospital Education Initiative. Stephanie Carroll and WV's Joni Gray have teamed up to do research on the non-WIC population of Appalachia/breastfeeding. There are a few research projects/surveys out there on Appalachia and breastfeeding, however, most pertain to only WIC participants. This research project will pertain to all patients/clients in a pediatric/OB clinic setting with an emphasis on abuse and addiction.

LLL Ohio: no report

OLCA: Jennifer Foster: Elections completed. Next meeting is June 9th (mostly board transition). Planning for annual conference has already begun for next March, stay tuned. Fall meetings will have CERPS, watch website.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, on July 5, 2018.