



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Leadership Board Call Minutes for April 8, 2020, 12 noon

Present: Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), presiding, Mary Burton (Vice Chair, R6 Rep), Ann Davis (LLLOH Rep, Secretary), Andrea Schlueter (R2 Rep), Michelle Catersino, (R4 Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep).

Not Present: Laura Knisley (R1 Rep), Stephanie Carroll (ABN Rep), Misha Trescott (R7 Rep).

Guest: Latha Srinivasan, OBA Member

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 11 2020 board call were accepted by consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balances:

OBA: \$2188.55

EDBFIM: 11613.85

WBOC: 1316.28

Paramount: 123.02

OBA income: (dues) \$35.00

EDBFIM income: 0

OBA expenses: (pp) \$1.62

EDBFIM expense: 0

Ending Balances:

OBA: \$ 2221.93

EDBFIM: 11613.85

WBOC: 1316.28 Paramount 123.02

Submitted by Lori Nester RD, LD, IBCLC. Subject to Audit

Elections: The election ballot was submitted and unanimously approved as follows: Mary Burton was nominated as Regional Representative for Region 6, Michelle Catersino was nominated as Regional Representative for Region 4, and Ann Davis was nominated as Representative at-Large for La Leche League. The election will begin on April 15 and conclude on April 30, with results being posted on May 1, 2020. Lori will update the member lists in MailChimp and send out a reminder to renew so as to participate in the election.

Member Meeting: Because of the COVID-19 emergency, the original date set for the General Meeting has been cancelled. No decision on a new date/format for the meeting has been set.

Newsletter: Jennifer would like to communicate with members via the newsletter, and send out the Annual Report to all. Jennifer requested updates from all the ongoing projects to include in a report to members in the newsletter. Ann will post the report on the website.

Black Breastfeeding Week 2020 Project: Stephanie is meeting virtually with participants to further this project. No new information about this project at this time.

ODH Workplace Project: Lori had sent around a draft of the toolkit for the project and received comments back from the board and from Latha. In general, there were concerns expressed that language surrounding pumping created expectations that could be detrimental to employees' being able to take adequate pumping breaks; that overall the document used very gendered language and should consider using more non-gendered terms, especially 'employee'; and that language about pumping should follow the example of the Break Time for Nursing Mothers law to not use specific or suggested time frames, as well as refer to the Act by its proper title. It was also noted that the overall tone of the document skewed to sounding 'dated', with very gendered and 'cutesy' terms being used, such as 'win-win', 'nursing moms', or 'funny space'. Latha included many suggested corrections in her review of the drafts that touched on legal aspects, including employees knowing and following employer policies. The group discussed their comments a bit further, and Lori invited all to make comments on the toolkit drafts in the Google folder by March 13 before she submits them to Cathy Carothers.

Alongside this project, WIC is working on a messaging project and asked OBA to participate. Lori submitted a brief description of what is planned. The project consists of focus groups that will address the following:

ODH was awarded funding from ASTHO to identify specific strategies to increase breastfeeding duration rates, particularly among African American and Appalachian women in Ohio, by conducting a mixed methods evaluation with women in these communities. The Healthy People 2020 breastfeeding goal is to increase the proportion of infants who are breastfed at 6 months.

The overarching evaluation questions are:

1. What strategies can ODH pursue that are likely to increase breastfeeding duration rates among African American women?
2. What strategies can ODH pursue that are likely to increase breastfeeding duration rates among Appalachian women?

Lori and Stephanie will hopefully bring more information about this project back to the board in the future.

Committee Task Force Reports

Childcare (Ann): Latha is available to help with reviewing applications. Ann will forward her contact info to Bre. No other updates at this time.

First Steps (Libby): no new report, as the meeting was postponed. Work is moving forward for the next round of designations. Jennifer has been helping Ryan at ODH about Ban the Bags applicants, and there are new hospitals applying for this award. OLCA will be announcing the awards via a newsletter since Breastfest was cancelled.

Nursing In Public (Ann): no new report

Database: (Lori): Lori will send out general requests for agencies and organizations to update their information in the database.

Regional Reports/Local Coalitions/ Members at Large:

Region 1:

Region 2: Andrea asked all to remind families that they can renew WIC by phone or online.

Region 3:

Region 4:

Region 5: Libby's facility has been able to continue all classes and tours online. She was fortunate to have had an intern who helped set up telehealth systems earlier, so they were able to put that to immediate use. They have been able to integrate practices crucial to HIPPA in their telehealth system.

Region 6: CLC training taking place in November in Akron area.

Region 7:

LLL Ohio: all in-person meetings have been cancelled, some Groups are holding meetings online. LLL meetings do not have to meet HIPPA standards, but do try to use platforms that are confidential.

OLCA: Breastfest 2020 has been cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns.

ABN: ABN is now managing the statewide breastfeeding hotline. Feel free to share this resource widely: 888-588-3423. They also have the ability to help via video and with ASL support. They are looking for channels to publicize the hotline widely.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, on May 11, 2020