

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LACTATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2018**

The District of Columbia Lactation Commission held a public meeting on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm via Webex.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings. Questions about the meeting may be directed to Emily.woody@dc.gov.

I. Meeting called to order at 6:07pm by Angela McClain.

II. Attendees:

By Webex:

Commissioner Angela McClain—Community Outreach Expert, Chair
Commissioner Christina Stowers—Consumer Member
Commissioner Sahira Long—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Commissioner Jenny Tender—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Colleen Sonosky—Department of Health Care Finance Representative
Emily Woody—Department of Health Representative
Commissioner Noelene Jeffers—Lactation Expert Member
Commissioner Amira Roess—Public Health Expert Member
Commissioner Gwendolyn West—Lactation Expert
Tamika Cambridge – DC Department of Human Resources
Judith Campbell—Public Attendee

Absent:

Chibu Anyanwu—Office of the State Superintendent of Education Representative
Commissioner Kanika Harris—Public Health Expert
Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick—Consumer Member
Quamiece Harris—Department of Human Services (DHS) Representative

III. Adoption of Agenda – motion to approve agenda properly moved by Commissioner Jenny Tender and seconded by Commissioner Sahira Long.

IV. Approval of Minutes from January 2018 Meeting

- a. Clarification to part ix under Section b under the Sub-Committees Work Plan and Next Steps:
 - i. Please edit this sentence: Noelene explained that there are a lot of resources provided for breastfeeding families in the immediate postpartum period

- ii. Sentence should read: Commissioner Noelene Jeffers explained that there are a lot of resources provided for breastfeeding families in the immediate postpartum period while the mother is in the hospital but not as many resources for her when she leaves the hospital.
- b. Motion to approve January 2018 minutes properly moved by Commissioner Christina Stowers and seconded by Commissioner Jenny Tender.

V. Old Business

- a. Vacancies:
 - i. DCHR government representative position is now filled. Tamika Cambridge is the new DCHR representative
 - ii. MOTA is currently recruiting for the second community outreach position is recruited currently.
 - 1. Judy Campbell, a frequent public attendee, applied for this position but was not eligible because she is not a DC resident.
 - iii. MOTA is currently recruiting for the OB/GYN position. No applications have been received. Commissioner Christina Stowers attempted to make contact with the Ob/Gyn identified at the last meeting, Dr. Elliot Tolle, but was not able to make contact.
- b. By-laws: Edits discussed at last meeting have been made by Emily Woody and were reviewed. Bylaws signed to take effect as of January 22, 2018; Emily will send copy of signed by-laws to members.
- c. Needs Assessment: Emily Woody reported that the Nutrition and Physical Fitness Bureau has a needs assessment committee related specifically to lactation and the committee wants to know how many IBCLCs are working in the district of Columbia and what the needs are for the district residents. Their goal is to develop an informal survey about breastfeeding support in the District and distribute that to the hospitals and clinics and find out what the support services are available, how many IBCLCs are available, and how long does it take to get a lactation appointment. Commissioner Christina Stowers who is not on a particular committee mentioned volunteered to assist with this effort. Additionally, Emily Woody will reach out to the lactation support subcommittee who will provide assistance as needed. Colleen Sonosky requested that when the main contacts are identified, she would like to use this group of individuals to set up a meeting about IBCLCs enrolling as a provider in the Medicaid program in order to bill for lactation support services.
- d. Review of Subcommittee Members
 - a. Commissioner McClain reviewed the purpose and the makeup of each subcommittee.
 - b. Subcommittee Configuration and Refiguration Plan
 - i. Human Milk Bank
 - 1. Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick
 - ii. Lactation Support Services and Hotline
 - 1. Commissioner Noelene Jeffers
 - 2. Commissioner Sahira Long
 - 3. Commissioner Amira Roess
 - 4. Commissioner Gwendolyn West
 - iii. Library
 - 1. Commissioner Gwendolyn West

2. Commissioner Jenny Tender (will move to Human Milk Bank Committee)
 3. Commissioner Angela McClain (will move to Human Milk Bank Committee)
- e. 2017 Annual Report: None of the subcommittees were able to meet after the January 2018 meeting. All subcommittees will review the work plan identified in the January 2018 meeting, revise their respective sections of the report and present on their updates at the next meeting. Commissioner McClain also asked each subcommittee to create a work plan for 2018.

VI. New Business

- a. Race Forward National First Food Equity Cohort Video: Race Forward convened the "National First Food Racial Equity Cohort", a group of 16 breastfeeding advocates, supporters, academics, and other practitioners from across the country. They created a video that documents their struggles with racial equity in breastfeeding, and the steps they are taking to overcome these issues. The link to this video is here: <https://www.facebook.com/RaceForward/videos/10156134123188566/>
- b. May 6th is the 20th anniversary celebration for the Breastfeeding Center. Please visit their web page for information on upcoming events.
- c. Sahira Long will be presenting in Oklahoma about the work that DC Breastfeeding Coalition has done to address breastfeeding disparities in DC and about their initiative for Creating a Baby Friendly District of Columbia
- d. 2018 Meeting Schedule and Notetakers: In consideration regarding meeting frequency, decision to meet monthly was to allow us to gain momentum as a new commission. Commissioners in attendance asked their perspective on whether we have achieved enough momentum to scale back to less frequent meetings (total or simply in-person). Recommendation by Commissioner Propst-Riddick to keep meeting monthly until April 2018 as we still have a lot of work needed to determine next steps and then determine if we have made enough progress to scale back; suggestion made by Commissioner Jeffers to consider changing some meetings to by-phone rather than in-person. Decision made to continue in-person monthly meetings at least until April 2018 and then decide on needed frequency and any format changes. Schedule for notetaker is as follows (changes will be needed if meeting frequency changes):
 - i. February: Noelene Jeffers
 - ii. March: NEED VOLUNTEER
 - iii. April: Lauren Propst-Riddick
 - iv. May: NEED VOLUNTEER
 - v. June: Gwendolyn West
 - vi. July: NEED VOLUNTEER
 - vii. August: NEED VOLUNTEER
 - viii. September: Jenny Tender
 - ix. October: Christina Stowers
 - x. November: NEED VOLUNTEER
 - xi. December: NEED VOLUNTEER

VII. Opportunity for Public Comment: None

VIII. Review of Action Items

- a. Emily Woody to contact MOTA about the two open positions to get update on recruitment efforts and strategy.
- b. Emily Woody to f/u with Sahira, Jenny and Gwen whose term ends in April. Emily Woody to inquire about re-appointment process. Emily Woody had previously Elizabeth Keaton from the Office of the Director of MOTA
- c. Emily Woody to connect with the lactation committee for assistance with the needs assessment that will be conducted by the Nutrition and Physical Fitness Bureau.
- d. Library committee will meet to wrap up their activities with their recommendations for online platform and recommendations for
- e. Commissioner Angela McClain will reach out to Commissioner Lauren Probst-Riddick and figure out where they will go for Human Milk Bank
- f. All subcommittees to hold a meeting to discuss their next steps and edits to the 2018 report.
- g. Angela McClain will share 2017 report with Tamika Cambridge and circulate current draft to 2018 report that includes new data that Sahira provided and also includes the updates on disparities in breastfeeding by Jenny Tender.

IX. Items to Continue for Next Meeting: 2018 Annual Report

- X.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:09PM.