

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
LACTATION COMMISSION Meeting  
Monday, March 25, 2019  
DC Health  
899 North Capitol St NE Rm 306  
Washington, DC 20002**

Note-taker: Commissioner Tender

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm

**II. Roll Call:**

**Attendance Via WebEx:**

Suzanne Henley—Office of the State Superintendent of Education Representative  
Commissioner Noelene Jeffers-Lactation Expert Member  
Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick—Consumer Member

**Attendance in Person:**

Noni Robinson—DC Health Representative  
Commissioner Angela McCLain—Community Outreach Expert, Chair  
Commissioner Stephanie Sieswierda—Community Outreach Expert  
Commissioner Sahira Long—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member  
Commissioner Jennifer Tender—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member

**Absent:**

Colleen Sonosky—Department of Health Care Finance Representative  
Tamika Cambridge—DC Dept of Human Resources Representative  
Commissioner Gwendolyn West-Lactation Expert  
Commissioner Stephanie Hack-Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) Member  
Quamiece Harris—DC Department of Human Services Representative  
Commissioner Christina Stowers—Consumer Member

**III. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by Commissioner Sahira Long. Seconded by Commissioner Stephanie Sieswerda

**IV. Approval of Minutes from November 2018 and February 2019 Meeting**

November minutes changes:

- Change time of call to order to 6:20 and add note taker Christina Stowers
- Under old business Section V: Letter will be signed by Commissioner McClain
- Under new business Section VI: Change the DCBF to the DCBFC Summit

Moved to approve by Commissioner Propst-Riddick

Seconded by Commissioner Long

February minute changes:

- Change from Draft Agenda to Minutes and delete the beginning info about WebEx
- Commissioner West was present
- Section IV B: delete first “seconded by”
- Section VI B: section 1C, delete extra “to”
- Section V A. Delete “currently” first bullet point, add “Chairman” to Vincent Gray

- Section VI B: Committee Makeup –delete “Chairs in bold”
- Change Lauren Probst-Riddick to Propst Riddick
- Notetakers: March will be Commissioner Tender  
Moved to approve March minutes by Commissioner Long and seconded by Commissioner Sieswerda

## **V: Old Business:**

**DC Council Testimony:** Commissioners Tender and McClain reached out to Councilmember Gray’s office. Budget hearing is April 9<sup>th</sup> and it is not clear if the Lactation Commission will submit testimony. We are awaiting the final word from DC Health to see if they will fund our recommendations from the Annual Report.

### **Review of 2018 Annual Report:**

The Annual Report was reviewed by Christi Dorsey (WIC) and Amelia Peterson-Kosecki (Nutrition and Physical Fitness Bureau). It will be given to Dr. Anjali Talwalkar –Deputy Director for Community Health Administration (CHA) at DC Health, then Dr. Nesbitt and finally Mayor Bowser for approval. Commissioner Tender asked if should submit testimony to the DC Health Budget Hearing and Commissioner McClain recommended that we wait until we hear back from DC Health because she was under the impression that if our Annual Report is approved then our recommendations will be included in the 2020 budget. She was told that we do not need to specific amounts for our recommendations with financial costs.

### **Specific changes are outlined below:**

P. 4. The fourth person in the photo is Dr. Stephanie Hack

p. 12: In general, will start each sentence with “The Lactation Commission recommends...”

Will be consistent with referring to Washington, DC as the “District” rather than DC.

Recommendation 1: Will keep promotion of breastfeeding activities on DC Health website and Commissioner McClain will discuss Amelia Peterson-Kosecki.

Recommendation 2:

P 13: Allocate funds in 2020 budget to cover costs associated with this task.

Update any policies around collection development and obsolescing materials, including but not limited to printed and electronic media related to breastfeeding.

Coordinate breastfeeding collection with DCBF coalition and other stakeholders

Recommendation 4: Angela McClain will share NYC and Texas Departments of Health websites about breastfeeding because we feel that DC Health should house the website.

P. 15: The Lactation Commission recommends that DC Health request funds in its 2020 budget needed to complete a comprehensive needs assessment to determine if there is a need for a HMBANA Milk Bank in DC. If a HMBANA Milk Bank is deemed necessary, the commission recommends that DC Health identify the best options for operation of a milk bank. We included HMBANA and expanded this section to include options for operation.

p. 16 We included information about WIC peer support in summary about WIC.

Will change Peer Support Services to “Mom to mom” support.

p. 22:

Changes were made to Recommendation 6 and 7 in the report.

Recommendation 7: Change TA to “Technical Assistance.” Close the parenthesis.

DC Health or another agency will need to provide funding to which DCBFC and other organizations could apply to carry out a breastfeeding friendly FQHC initiative. This would be similar to the way the work in birthing facilities was started.

Recommendation 8: We discussed if we need to recommend a hotline if we could use pacify and BFedDC. We discussed possibly integrating breastfeeding into an existing hotline or expanding pacify to all District resident who are eligible for other public benefits. Noni Robinson shared that all mothers receiving WIC are encouraged to download the Pacify app but some have issues with data or wifi. We need to determine what options are available and the costs. Refer back to page 18 and 19

P. 23: Commissioner McClain will Share HMBANA info—need to determine the need for a milk bank.

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. Government Representatives Updates**

OSSE: Suzanne Henley:

- Breastfeeding Curriculum. Tia Brumsted (Assistant Deputy Direction for Health and Wellness) and Kerriann Peart (Health Education Manager) is requesting a content expert to help review the curriculum. The Program Development Committee of the DCBFC will review.
- Breastfeeding Friendly Standards for childcare. OSSE will be reviewing these guidelines and collaborating with someone in the Division of Early Learning.

WIC: Noni Robinson has been working with Mudiwah Kadeshe to hire an IBCLC (Sharon Wright) who will be working at 4 sites in Ward 7 and 8 (CHC-Anacostia, Unity Anacostia, Howard U Minnesota.)

- b. Future meetings. There will be NO meeting in May (Memorial Day). We will hold a meeting at the usual time in November but will look into changing December’s meeting.

Notetakers:

- April Suzanne Henley
- May: no meeting
- June: Noni Robinson
- July: open
- August: open
- September: Commissioner: Noelene Jeffers
- October: Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick
- November:
- December: no meeting

- c. Vacancies: Angela McClain reached out to Elizabeth Keeton at MOTa and she said that Amira Roess’ position (Public Health Expert) is posted. Commissioner McClain is soliciting suggestions for this position. Will check to see if the person needs to have a doctorate degree.

## **VII. Opportunity for Public Comment: No public people**

## **VIII. Review of Action Items:**

Commissioner McLain will incorporate edits into the Annual Report and will meet with Amelia Peterson-Kosecki to discuss the final report.

Commissioner McLain will determine if the Lactation Commission should testify at the budget hearing.

Commissioner McLain will discuss with Elizabeth Keeton at MOTA if the Public Health Expert needs to have a doctorate degree.

There should be a renewed effort to meet with subcommittees.

DCPL: Angela McClain will follow up with Sheryl Katzin about the letter.

Commissioner Long will email commission members to sign up as notetakers and to meet with subcommittee.

#### **IX. Items to Continue for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be in person at DC Health on Monday, April 22, 2019 from 6pm – 8pm.

#### **X. Adjournment at 8:00 pm**