

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LACTATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 27, 2020**

The District of Columbia Lactation Commission held a public meeting on January 27, 2020 from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. The meeting was held in-person at DC Health, 899 North Capitol St. NE, Room 306, Washington, D.C., 20002. Below are the minutes from the meeting.

Notetaker: Commissioner Sahira Long

I. Call to Order at 6:35p

II. Roll Call

Attendance in Person:

Commissioner Stephanie Sieswerda - Community Outreach Member and Commission Chair
Commissioner Jennifer Tender - Pediatrician/Neonatologist
Commissioner Aubrey Villalobos – Public Health Expert
Noni Robinson - DC Health Representative
Judy Campbell – Public Member

Attendance Via WebEx:

Commissioner Sahira Long - Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Commissioner Christina Stowers - Consumer Member
Colleen Sonosky - DC Department of Healthcare Finance Representative
Emily Woody - DC Health Representative
Suzanne Henley – OSSE Representative
Commissioner Noelene Jeffers - Lactation Expert Member
Commissioner Kanika Harris - Public Health Expert Member
Commissioner Stephanie Hack - Obstetrics/Gynecology (Ob/Gyn) Member
Commissioner Gwendolyn West - Lactation Expert Member
Commissioner Angela McClain - Community Outreach Expert Member

Absent:

Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick - Consumer Member
Quameice Harris - DC Department of Human Resources Representative
Jill Johnson – DC Department of Human Resources Representative

III. Adoption of Agenda motion made by Commissioner Villalobos and seconded by Commissioner Tender. The motion was approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. December 2019 Meeting: correction made to change DC Health to DC Public Schools in the Education and Outreach Subcommittee update. Motion to approve corrected minutes made by Commissioner Stowers and seconded by Commissioner Villalobos. The motion was approved.

V. Old Business – no items to discuss.

VI. New Business

- a. Subcommittee Updates
 - i. Outreach and Education –
 - 1. K-12 Curriculum: suggestion received that Commissioner Tender enter a request to have teachers to provide input on the K-12 curriculum into OSSE newsletter. Everything included must be reviewed by agency so it should go out in the next 1-2 weeks. One bulletin is distributed to several local education agencies, including DC Public Schools. Another bulletin goes out to all teachers, including those at charter schools. Goal is to include request in both bulletins.
 - 2. Medicaid Transmittal: DC Breastfeeding Coalition has approved email to go out and is now working on getting list together to distribute. Emily Woody will send Commissioner Tender the list used to distribute survey done by DC Health.
 - ii. Lactation Support Services – no meeting in the interim so there were no updates.
- b. Understanding the Budget – Emily Woody will distribute the slides that were reviewed regarding the timeline and process used to develop the annual budget. Emily Woody suggested that ideal time to submit report is July/August with budgetary requests included. Emily Woody will take a class in March to understand the process and report back afterwards. Colleen Sonosky clarified that there are two different sets of questions between the oversight hearings (programmatic issues regarding how things are done/changed) and the budget hearings (how the money is spent).
- c. 2019 Annual Report Updates – Annual Report Task Force Updates
 - i. Draft report completion target should be in March, so it has time to go through DC Health review and approval process prior to being finalized in July/August.
 - ii. Emily Woody indicated that having the report is useful when she gets questions about funding projects and proposals.
 - iii. Commissioner Tender suggested including any dollar amounts we can.
 - iv. Recommendation has been made to restructure the annual report based on an outline developed by Commissioner Tender and distributed to the Annual Report Task Force in the interim. The recommended outline was reviewed and will be distributed to the entire Lactation Commission for review. Commissioner Sieswerda suggested spending time to ensure alignment with DC Health goals for breastfeeding including using similar language. Commissioner McClain recommended confirming with MOTA that we can delay submitting the report. Emily Woody has not received any information recommending that the report be submitted at this time but will double check with MOTA to ensure that there will not be any issues with changing the timeline. Reports from other commissions and boards that were reviewed were also on a different timeline than the one we used previously and more aligned with the budgetary process. Emily Woody commented that having our report follow the life course (antenatal, prenatal, postpartum) similar to the Thrive by Five commission which meets quarterly and has been made aware that the Lactation Commission would like to collaborate. Commissioner Tender recommended including results of any related research that has been done by members of the commission. Commissioner Hack offered insight on the needs of mothers and families being different at all the time periods included. All commissioners have been asked to review the outline and volunteer to help with a section with a goal of having a draft to review by the next meeting. Commissioner Villalobos requested that a copy of the last report submitted be distributed. Emily Woody and Noni Robinson will investigate making it public. Draft 2019-2020 report will be completed through an online document sharing tools (e.g., Google Docs).
- d. Government Representatives Updates – 10 min per Representative

- i. DC Health: Noni Robinson reported that WIC has completed Grow and Glow training which included 12 attendees. Curriculum-based training for breastfeeding peer counselors and new employees at local agencies. Local agencies are receiving training on updated policies and procedures. Partnership with DC Breastfeeding Coalition has resulted in increase in breastfeeding rates in Wards 7 and 8. Local agency peer counselors are now referring breastfeeding families to Sharon Wright. Emily Woody has been named the Nutrition Coordinator for DC WIC State Agency. Breastfeeding Coordinator position will be posted in a couple of weeks.
 - ii. OSSE: no updates
 - iii. DCHF: Natasha Lewis is now Program manager for provider relations, will be even more helpful to answer questions about the transmittal. There is still another person at the agency that needs to weigh in about billing for IBCLC services provided in WIC.
- e. Mayor's Budget Engagement Forums-open to the public and located in different places in the community. Commissioner Sieswerda will circulate information in case any members are interested in attending.
- f. Emily Woody has not followed up with MOTA regarding emails that were received by commissioners regarding the in-person Ethics Training. In last correspondence, the MOTA contact indicated that the online YouTube training was sufficient to meet the requirement. Ethics training needs to be completed after each time a commissioner is sworn in. Emily Woody will follow up with MOTA about getting a DCBC email address for Commissioner Villalobos.
- g. Father's Playbook app: Commissioner Villalobos is contacting PI to find out if any breastfeeding content exists and if not, would developers be interested in adding any information.
- h. Breast milk shipping: Any mom who returns from maternity leave at International Monetary Fund will have access to use Milk Stork through HR when traveling for work. Commissioner Villalobos is trying to help the World Bank to do the same.

VII. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

- a. Judy Campbell will join a constellation on milk banking with USBC that is taking place on 1/28/20.
- b. Pump Challenges: New Hampshire Pharmacy now requires mothers to come in person to retrieve the loaner hospital grade rental pump when their name comes on the waiting list. This change was made several months ago. AmeriHealth is now taking 1-2 weeks to approve any kind of pump. Quality of pumps being given to moms with Medicaid has changed. Commissioner West advocated to get NebDoctors to use Medela personal use pump instead of lower quality one that what was being provided to Medicaid recipients at Howard University Hospital (they are now using the same pump for everyone regardless of the type of insurance). If unable to get pump through insurance, moms can get Medela personal use pump through WIC. Commissioner West shared concerns about education being provided around use of the pump. Colleen Sonosky will send an email connecting Commissioner West with Pamela Riley.

VIII. **Review of Action Items**

- a. Emily Woody will send Commissioner Tender the list of IBCLC used to distribute survey done by DC Health.
- b. Emily Woody will distribute the slides that were reviewed regarding the timeline and process used to develop the annual budget.
- c. Commissioner Sieswerda will distribute the outline of the 2019-2020 annual report that was developed and reviewed by Commissioner Tender.
- d. All commissioners will review the outline and volunteer to help with a section with a goal of having a draft to review by the next meeting.

- e. Commissioner Villalobos requested that a copy of the last report submitted be distributed. Emily Woody and Noni Robinson will investigate making it public.
- f. Commissioner Sieswerda will circulate information about the Mayor's upcoming Budget Engagement Forums in case any members are interested in attending.
- g. Emily Woody will follow up with MOTA about the emails several commissioners received about the in-person Ethics Training and also about getting a DCBC email address for Commissioner Villalobos.
- h. Colleen Sonosky will send an email connecting Commissioner West with Pamela Riley.

IX. Items to Continue for Next Meeting – Commissioner Villalobos will present a summary of her dissertation findings. Emily Woody will present an update after attending the class to learn more about the budget process.

The next meeting will be held in-person on Monday, March 23, 2020 from 6:30pm – 8pm in-person at DC Health.

X. Adjournment at 7:55pm.