

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LACTATION COMMISSION**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The District of Columbia Lactation Commission held a public meeting on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 6:00 pm, at the Department of Health, 899 North Capitol St., N.E., Room 306, Washington, D.C., 20002. Below are the minutes for the meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. Questions about the meeting may be directed to angela.mcclain@dcbc.dc.gov.

Call-in Number: 1-866-718-0178
Passcode: 5339716

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Commission Chair, Commissioner McClain.

Roll Call:

In Person:

Commissioner Gina Caruso - Community Outreach Expert
Commissioner Quamiece Harris - DHS Representative
Ms. Binah Kaye Joy - Public attendee
Commissioner Jenny Tender - Pediatrician/Neonatologist
Ms. Judy Campbell - Public Attendee
Commissioner Angela McClain – Chair and Community Outreach Expert
Commissioner Emily Woody - DOH Representative
Commissioner Lauren Propst Riddick - Consumer Member
Commissioner Amira Roess - Public Health Expert
Commissioner Gwendolyn West - Lactation Expert

By Phone:

Commissioner Noelene Jeffers - Lactation Expert
Commissioner Sahira Long - Pediatrician/Neonatologist
Commissioner Colleen Sonosky - DOH Finance Representative

Absent:

Commissioner Paulette Thompson - DOH Representative
Commissioner Chibu Anyanwu - OSSE Representative
Commissioner Kanika Harris - Public Health Expert

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Two changes were made to the agenda:

- The Milk Bank Subcommittee will go first because Commissioner Caruso needs to leave at 7:30 pm.
- Commissioner Anyanwu will present on ratings for day care centers next month.

Commissioner Woody will make the changes to the agenda and re-post. Commissioner Caruso moved to adopt, Commissioner Propst Riddick seconded.

III. Approval of August Minutes

Commissioner Harris needs to be added to the minutes as absent. Commissioner Roess moved to approve as amended, Commissioner Propst Riddick seconded.

IV. Old Business (switched spots with special presentation)

a. By-laws:

Following up on discussion in August, members discussed the need for By-laws. Consensus is to continue work to develop By-laws.

Commissioner Woody shared examples of by-laws from other breastfeeding coalitions compiled by a DOH intern that may be applicable. She also compiled a list of resources and how-to guidelines and templates. Commissioners Woody and McClain will work with the intern on a draft. The goal is to develop basic, standard bylaws governing the operation of the Commission.

b. Report to Mayor

At August meeting, Commissioner Thompson shared a copy of a report from the Board of Ethics and Accountability Report. It is the only DC commission report found on the web. The format includes a cover, intro of commission, and six recommendations to questions the commission was expected to research.

Commissioner McClain proposed that the Lactation Commission's report include a cover, table of content, intro, list of members and vacancies, report for each subcommittee (purpose, who is on it, frequency of meetings, what was discussed, and recommendations going forward). She will seek further guidance from the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA on length, format, etc., Without further guidance, it was agreed the Commission will report on what we've done and what we recommend to date.

Commissioner Harris asked if the report needs DOH review and how long a review process takes. Commissioner Woody will check and shared usually it's a two week turnaround time for review, and then another 2 weeks for approval. The deadline to submit our report is 12/29/17. There was discussion about the schedule for drafting, reviewing, obtaining approval and submission. Commissioner McClain, with support from Commissioner Harris, will consider what the best timeline for drafts will be and email around a schedule.

- V. Special Presentation on DC Health Matters by Kimberley Searcy, Program Manager of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs, Child Health Advocacy Institute (CHAI), Children's National Health System

Ms. Searcy's PowerPoint will be sent around for reference.

DC Health Matters is a web portal that provides info about community health in DC including data, best practices, and resources. To review the website, visit: <http://www.dchealthmatters.org/>.

On the website demographics are available by ward. There is information about grants and program development. At present, there is no lactation-specific information, but information on nutrition, maternity care is available. The website does include national breastfeeding programs, found by typing in "breastfeeding" in the Promising Practices section.

Ms. Searcy can assist in getting us in touch with the data person to talk about how to get more statistics specifically about breastfeeding. Current data is analyzed by a Healthy Community Institute based in Berkeley, CA (<https://www.conduent.com/community-population-health/>). Ms. Searcy will look into adding Healthy People 2020 markers to the portal. DOH could contribute WIC breastfeeding data. Other sources of information for the portal include: Center for Disease Control (CDC), ED, Caritas, US Census Bureau and American Community Survey.

The Needs Assessment is done every 3 years. The last assessment was completed in 2016.

All members were encouraged to join the DC Health Matters listserv to receive current information about the portal.

VI. New Business

a. Reports of Sub-Committees

Breastfeeding Education and Library (Commissioner Tender)

Commissioner Tender reported that the sub-committee is working with DC Public Library (DCPL) to update its collection of breastfeeding related books and resources. The sub-committee has found 70 books related to breastfeeding in the DCPL catalogue database. Some had loose association or are outdated. The list will be sent to the Commission for review and feedback to library.

Question regarding location for potential virtual breastfeeding library links was reiterated as needing determination for hosting under DOH website or DC Breastfeeding Coalition (DCBFC) website. The hosting of virtual library considerations includes costs and other responsibilities for maintenance. DOH is currently in the process of revising its website. DOH representatives will report back on whether or not it is an option to host the Lactation Virtual Library on DOH's website. E. Woody reported that at present DOH employees has access to National Library of Medicine (NLM) web portals. Universities and hospitals presently have access to databases, and purchase subscriptions/ licenses to online research and professional publications. Links to

resources with notation about access might be posted in lieu of full electronic library access on the virtual library.

Commissioner West contacted DCPL Associate Director for Collections, Ms. Sheryl Katzin. She provided three additional contacts for us to share recommendations on books. As we identify books, she encouraged us to determine the target audience (preliminary categorization by age, type of reading material). Any suggestions can be sent to Ms. Katzin to be submitted for review to her staff. System wide book requests may also be made via account holders signing into DCPL and clicking the 'Send a Request'. [<https://www.dclibrary.org/contact>]

DCPL is in midst of a campaign to revise/expand digital system for electronic resources. Electronic data bases are at their website, though limited access to higher levels scholarly data. Comments/requests for online media can be made to electronic resources department.

There was discussion about criteria and parameters for formal partnership with DCPL to be considered and the Breastfeeding Education and Library sub-committee will review and formulate suggestions to DCBC general body. The Education and Library Committee will meet to discuss connections with DCPL and further action regarding requests for stocking DCPL with relevant publications and electronic media.

The interim central library is located on 19th and K Street, as MLK is being renovated.

Human Milk Donation (Commissioner Caruso)

A commissioner referenced a previous conversation in which the question was posed as to whether milk banking is still a relevant goal for the DCBC even though it is a stated purpose for the establishment of the commission. In the region, there is interest. Commissioner Caruso has consulted with Virgie Hughes, a lactation expert in Virginia. Ms. Hughes knows of a lactation consultant in Baltimore who has expressed intention to start a milk bank there.

If we are to complete a Needs Assessment for instituting a DC milk bank, Ms. Caruso shared that it should include a survey of local hospital use of /purchase of donor human milk and human milk fortifiers.

Commissioner Tender is currently working with the Department of Health Care Finance on the issue of sourcing human milk and milk fortifiers. Commissioner Sonosky shared that Department Health Care Financing (DHCF) wants documentation of prospective use and cost of human milk fortifiers before agreeing to reimburse. We can determine cost basis of donor human milk based on retrospective analysis, but not for human milk fortifier. The justification for the purchase of human milk and fortifiers is to reduce the risk of conditions such as necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) compared to use of Academy for Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM) formulas. Human milk fortifier costs \geq \$127/oz. Can smaller aliquots than one ounce be made available to reduce waste from containers, once opened have short expiration period? Commissioner Long shared that ABM is to release a statement on need for human milk banking, benefits/cost, shipping.

States with donor milk laws include California (CA), New York (NY) and Maryland (MD). The subcommittee will look into MD laws on human milk and share at the next meeting.

Lactation Support Services and Hotline (Chair: Commissioner Jeffers)

Commissioner Jeffers reported that there is little research regarding the effectiveness of warm/hot lines. The examples of existing phone support lines include Office of Women's Health (OWH), La Leche League International (LLLI), Infant Risk Center, state/ local run lines in Arizona (AZ) and Texas (TX). The warm line issue is not urgent. The effectiveness and cost effectiveness need to be determined. Other electronic resources for breastfeeding education include:

- "Strategies to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases
- The CDC Guide to Strategies to Support Breastfeeding Mothers and Babies [<https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/pdf/bf-guide-508.pdf>];
- The DCBFC Resource Guide, and NYC which publishes access to specific resources.

Subscriptions to Pacify, a face to face via cell phone system for breastfeeding support from International Board of Lactation Consultants Examiners (IBCLCs) have been purchased by the DCBFC and accessed via the East of the River Breastfeeding Center, Mary's Center and by the DC Women Infant and Children (WIC) Program for use by local WIC participants. The program is popular and under review by these subscribers for effectiveness.

VII. Opportunity for Public Comment

Ms. Judith Campbell:

Ms. Campbell is in possession of Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) "Guidelines for the Establishment and Operation of a Donor Human Milk Bank" which can be purchased at the HMBANA website for \$95 [<https://www.hmbana.org/guidelines>]. She shared that human milk is not subject to same set of [FDA] regulations for use and handling as other biologics.

She also shared that the Committee on Finance and Revenue, Education and Health will hold a joint public hearing on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. The hearing will look at the Infant and Toddler Developmental Health Services Act of 2017. The deadline for oral comments/testimonies is 5 pm on September 25 and written comments can be submitted until October 5. For more information, Commissioners may review <http://dccouncil.us/calendar>

Ms. Binah Kaye Joy:

Ms. Joy is a newly Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC). She inquired about the application process for becoming a member of the Commission. She also shared that she is planning and organizing a performance arts "family engagement" piece, as part of Arts in Public Spaces, to increase awareness about breastfeeding. Commissioner Long encouraged her to link with the Commission's subcommittee on Lactation Services and Hotline. to look at partnering on programs for the community. She also requested consideration for having meetings at other locations and providing child care at meetings.

VIII. Review of Acton Items

Complete draft of by-laws (Commissioners McClain, Woody & DOH intern)

Finalize template for report to Mayor (Commissioner McClain); Draft schedule to develop the report (Commissioners McClain, Harris).

Review DCPL book list and offer recommendations (All Commissioners)

Share decision by DOH to host the virtual library on its website (Commissioners Thompson/Woody)

IX. Items to Continue for Next Meeting

Report from Education and Library Committee on book reviews

Report from Human Milk Bank on human milk laws

Report from Lactation Support Committee

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.