The District of Columbia Lactation Commission held a public meeting on Monday, November 26, 2018 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Below are the meeting minutes:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm.

II. Roll Call

Attendance Via Webex:
Colleen Sonosky—Department of Health Care Finance Representative
Commissioner Sahira Long—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Tamika Cambridge—DC Department of Human Resources Representative
Suzanne Henley—Office of the State Superintendent of Education Representative
Commissioner Angela McClain—Community Outreach Expert, Chair
Commissioner Gwendolyn West—Lactation Expert
Commissioner Stephanie Hack—Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) Member

Attendance In-Person
Commissioner Christina Stowers—Consumer Member
Commissioner Jenny Tender—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Emily Woody—DC Health Representative

Absent:
Commissioner Noelene Jeffers—Lactation Expert Member
Commissioner Amira Roess—Public Health Expert Member
Commissioner Kanika Harris—Public Health Expert
Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick—Consumer Member
Lindsey Palmer—Office of the State Superintendent of Education Representative
Quamiece Harris—DC Department of Human Services Representative
Commissioner Stephanie Sieswerda

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Remove the DC government updates from the agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes from October 2018 Meeting

The following updates were provided on the action items listed in the minutes:
- Remove Commissioner Propst-Riddick from the absent section of the roll call.
A motion to approve, pending above corrections, was made by Commissioner Long and seconded by Commissioner Tender.

V. Old Business

Letter to the Mayor following Maternal and Infant Summit (Commissioners Long and Tender)—Letter will be signed, Angela McClain on behalf of the Public Members of the Lactation Commission. Commissioners Long, West, Tender, Stowers, and McClain agree in person and Commissioners Sieswerda and Propst-Riddick emailed approval. The letter will also be mentioned and included in the appendix of the Annual Report to DC Health to speak on behalf of the Lactation Commission to the Mayor’s Office.

VI. New Business

Lactation Commission on DC Health Website (Mrs. Emily Woody)—The DC Lactation Commission now has its own page on the DC Health website with background information and updates including minutes, agendas, bylaws, annual report, and other DC Health webpages. Plan is for website to be updated once per quarter.

2018 Annual Report (Commissioner McClain)—Needs to be sent to DC Health by end of day on December 9.
- A recommendation will be added in the Summary Section to include breastfeeding in the Maternal and Infant Health Summit. Commissioners Tender and Long will draft the introduction section. Dr. Nesbitt addressed that not everything was included in this first year’s summit, such as breastfeeding. Slides are available on the DC Health website with Dr. Nesbitt’s remarks at the follow-up meeting.
- A section will be added about current breastfeeding support activities in DC. Global Latch On, the DCBF Summit, WIC location events. Commissioner Tender and Emily Woody will send their overview of World Breastfeeding Month to Commissioner McClain to help with this section.
- Commissioner McClain will reach out to Judy for information on the human milk bank research she has done about the need for a milk bank in DC.
- Bios need to be included of public members and government representatives.
- A recommendation for next year’s work should be added to integrate breastfeeding support into an emergency preparedness plan. What do families need to have ready in an emergency to support breastfeeding? How can support be given to communities during a disaster?

Membership Update—Commissioner Amira Roess has resigned from the commission but will stay on until we find a replacement. The new position has not been posted, but once it is Emily Woody will send to DC Breastfeeding Coalition and Commission members.

VII. Opportunity for Public Comment

No members of the public were present.
VIII. Review of Action Items

New members will send bios to Commission McClain for inclusion in the Annual Report. Commissioner McClain will revise the Annual Report with the changes discussed. Annual Report will be shared with DC Health no later than December 10. Emily Woody will follow-up with MOTA about the Commissioner vacancy. Emily Woody will send World Breastfeeding month events and follow-up with Commissioner Tender on the conversation with DCPS. Emily Woody will provide new DC Health point of contact. Commissioner Tender will give the letter signature to the lead organization.

IX. Items to Continue for Next Meeting

There will be no meeting during the month of December due to the holidays. The next meeting will be in person at DC Health on Monday, January 28, 2019.

Review and revise bylaws for what constitutes a quorum and how long we will wait to call a meeting to order.

DC government member updates.

X. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.