

**LACTATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
October 22, 2018**

The District of Columbia Lactation Commission held a public meeting on Monday, October 22, 2018 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Below are the meeting minutes:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

Attendance Via Webex:

Commissioner Lauren Propst-Riddick—Consumer Member
Quamiece Harris—DC Department of Human Services Representative
Commissioner Sahira Long—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Commissioner Noelene Jeffers—Lactation Expert Member
Tamika Cambridge—DC Department of Human Resources Representative
Suzanne Henley —Office of the State Superintendent of Education Representative

Attendance In-Person

Commissioner Angela McClain—Community Outreach Expert, Chair
Commissioner Stephanie Sieswerda
Commissioner Christina Stowers—Consumer Member
Commissioner Jenny Tender—Pediatrician/Neonatologist Member
Emily Woody—DC Health Representative

Absent:

Commissioner Gwendolyn West—Lactation Expert
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
Colleen Sonosky—Department of Health Care Finance Representative
Commissioner Stephanie Hack—Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) Member

II. Approval of Minutes from September 2018 Meeting

The following updates were provided on the action items listed in the minutes:

- Commissioner Tender, who took the minutes last month, made corrections on her copy of the minutes and will share with Commissioner McClain.
- If there are other changes, send revisions to Commissioner McClain electronically by Thursday.

A motion to approve, pending above corrections, was made by Commissioner Tender and seconded by Commissioner Sieswerda.

III. New Business

Mayor's Maternal Health Summit follow-up—

A letter was drafted in response to the Mayor's Maternal Health Summit about the inclusion breastfeeding into the event in the future.

- Emily Woody reached out to MOTA to see if Commissioners can sign on to the letter. DC Health leadership has not received specific guidance as to whether or not the Lactation Commission can sign.
- Commissioners who wish to sign the letter should contact Commissioner Long. Emily Woody will follow-up with DC Health and Commissioner McClain will follow-up with MOTA to determine how signatures can be included. Government representatives will check in with their agencies to determine if they are able to sign. Recommendation to include a copy of the letter in the annual report.

Follow-up meeting to the Summit will be held on 10/23 (10am-12pm) located at the American University Washington College of Law. Emily Woody will attend in her role as a DC Health employee and be a breastfeeding advocate and report back to the commission what was discussed.

Kathy Logan, PNP Discussion — Kathy Logan is doing a needs assessment as part of her graduate school work and she had talked to Commissioner Tender and Commissioner Roess to discuss a research project with moms in Anacostia site.

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.

DC Health Lactation Support Services Survey—Emily Woody shared a presentation of survey results. She previously shared with the lactation services subcommittee and will make it available to others. Commissioner McClain will work with Emily to incorporate edits into the new report draft. Project with DC Health summer intern, Jessica Huey, goal to get a survey of some of the breastfeeding support that is available in DC beyond DC government involvement.

2018 Annual Report and Timeline—We need to determine a timeline that works for everyone. Any recommendations need to be sent to DC Health. Last year we did not have any recommendations.

- Library Sub-Committee—DCPL letter is complete. We did not make any major changes. It needs to be put on letterhead. Angela will send draft to Emily.
- Milk bank—Judy Campbell has done a lot of research and is drafting a one-pager for the milk bank subcommittee to make the case as to why there is a need to make a needs assessment to determine if there is a need to have a milk bank in DC. A publicly-funded

breast milk bank is not a current priority for DC Health. Judy will include in the letter as a strong advocate to determine how to make the case for a publicly funded. At one point Johns Hopkins and INOVA were rumored to be looking into a milk bank. Should we recommend investment in a needs assessment? What are local hospitals doing? A needs assessment, if done, will need to define “need.”

- Lactation Support Services—The sub-committee submitted information to Angela on Thursday, she has not looked into what was sent closely. Subcommittee addressed inputs. A few items are noted in the comments that still need some clarification, but mostly complete.
- Next calendar year—DC Health asked for recommendations and plans for the next year. All subcommittees need to be thinking of 2019 time.

DC Health will need to review by end of November. Next meeting is November 26. Aim for completion/final review that meeting. Submit to Emily by Nov. 30. Talk to Angela this Thursday to talk about our back and forth. Subcommittees need a week to review, Angela to submit to commissioners by Nov 14. Questions from DC Health will be sent by Emily to the respective subcommittees throughout the month of December.

IV. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public attendees present.

V. Review of Action Items

Final comments on September minutes are due by 10/25 (Thursday) to Commissioner McClain and will be sent to Emily Woody at DC Health by 10/26 (Friday).

Commissioner McClain will call MOTA to see what the final recommendation is for signature on the letter to the Mayor is. Recommendation to be added to the annual report.

Emily Woody will send the letter to all commissioners

Gwen will email link to Texas Health department breastfeeding action toolkit.

Emily Woody will follow-up with MOTA for posting Amira’s position.

Annual report: Commissioner McClain will send Emily final letter for DCPL and coordinate signatures. Commissioner Stowers and Commissioner McClain will work out timeline on final edits on Thursday. Commission review of annual reports by the 14th. Nov 30 Commissioner McClain will send report to Emily Woody for DC Health review.

VI. Items to Continue for Next Meeting

Emily Woody will provide an update on Perinatal Infant Health follow-up meeting at the next lactation commission meeting.

Please note the next meeting will be in person at DC Health on Monday, November 26, 2018.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.