

Minutes
 Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Coalition Telephone Conference Call
 March 26, 2008

Attendees: Nikki Lee, Gail Ide, Jeanne Spencer, Ruth Wilf, Kathleen Romberger, Ruth Solomon, Cynthia Bartok, Judy Gutowski, Dawn Blanchard, Martha Kautz, Lettie Thall

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISIONS
Caller identification and purpose	Phone Conference opened @ noon by Chair, Jeanne Spencer who stated the purpose of the meeting is to “jumpstart the April meeting.”	
Minutes Treasury	On web site for all to read Jeanne was given report by Pat Keister who could not be present.	Approved Report to be sent by e-mail to all.
Office of Women’s Health Grant	The grant was compiled and submitted by Dr. Esther Chung. Comments followed on the process that lead to its completion: Martha Kautz thought it was a good job for the time frame that was given. She wanted to know when the Coalition would hear whether or not it was accepted. Judy Gutowski thought the process went very well and applauded Esther for her hard work. Mention was made of the lack of representation in the northwest part of the state, but those involved said they could not get in contact with anyone from the northwest. Martha Kautz said that the final proposal was written for \$1750.00 total to enable 5 local coalitions to give awards for breastfeeding friendly accomplishments. Another \$380.00 was included to give a special statewide recognition award. Jeanne called the proposed amounts “seed money” to help local coalitions begin to think of recognizing breastfeeding friendly sites in their localities. Specific mention of Penn State Nutrition Department’s breastfeeding site was deleted from the grant because the time crunch did not allow enough time to be specific. Martha said she thought the bigger award should not necessarily have a “statewide”	No decision required

	<p>emphasis, but rather, just be a special recognition by the state coalition since we don't have a process for a statewide competition.</p> <p>Jeanne suggested that a vote of Coalition members be done to see if giving the special award to Penn State is what we wanted to do.</p> <p>Ruth Wilf responded that she'd like to see us give the award to Penn State. A vote is not needed.</p> <p>Jeanne said that the special award should be presented to Cynthia Bartok of the Nutrition Department in front of Penn State's administrators.</p> <p>Martha said that the Coalition has the money for travel so that members of the Coalition could actually present it.</p>	
<p>Julie Hohney of the Program Development Division of the Department of Public Welfare</p>	<p>The Department of Public Welfare division of Children, Youth and Families is currently planning discussions around the topic of co-sleeping in order to assist the Department in developing policy and practices for county children and youth caseworkers in their work with families. The department would like a variety of positions to be incorporated in these meetings and would like someone from the PA Breastfeeding Coalition to participate and/or to help identify someone who should be included.</p> <p>Martha Kautz said that a group had met previously on this topic and could not get consensus. The Office of Children, Youth and Families want consistent application in practice. They want policy to have recourse when law enforcement implicates</p>	<p>Jeanne Spencer has agreed to be our representative at these planning meetings. Martha Kautz is already going as a representative from the Dept of Health. Jeanne asks all coalition members to send her supportive literature to help her prepare well.</p> <p>Nikki Lee, Ruth Solomon, Judy Gutkowski and Dawn Blanchard all have literature for Jeanne.</p> <p>Judy Gutkowski suggested Jeanne look at Linda Smith's Yahoo group <i>Breastfeeding and Sleep</i> for lots of information.</p> <p>Judy Gutkowski suggested 2 doctors in Pittsburgh to be in on the discussion. Jeanne will send the names Judy gives her on to Julie Hohney.</p> <p>Gail Ide is on the Death Review team in the northeast part of the state. Does Cribs for Kids get</p>

	<p>them. Martha also mentioned that the way statistics are gathered when there is a death is questionable.</p>	<p>support from skewed data?</p>
<p>How does the Coalition make a statement as a group?</p>	<p>Chris Mulford brought this topic up. Martha said Chris wonders what we are to do when someone asks us for information. It is time that the Coalition decide how to approach policy issues. Martha said the Coalition could be a repository of information without giving an opinion.</p> <p>Kathy Romberger mentioned that our newsletter does just that. It publishes the facts.</p> <p>Nikki Lee commented that our voices are silent. We have evidence and it should be heard.</p> <p>Ruth Wilf asked “How do we make a statement? For example, What do we recommend co-sleeping, bedsharing or sidecar sleeping?”</p> <p>Jeanne said we can make statements, but we must have a process. Do we have to have a majority vote of the membership? What should go on the web site: interesting information or recommendations of the Coalition?</p> <p>Ruth Wilf suggested that we could keep files of information on topics under Resources on the web site. Kathy Romberger agreed. Nikki Lee suggested we have a democratic way of placing things on the web site. (Bring articles to meetings?)</p>	<p>Ruth Wilf suggested we have further discussion on this topic at the April meeting. Should the Coalition make simple position statements by vote of the majority of the membership at a meeting or via an e-mail response within 2 weeks? Martha said the Coalition needs a position file on the web which the drafter of the position statement would be responsible for. Nikki Lee said she would be glad to do this for “Co-Sleeping.”</p>
<p>Status of the Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Jeanne and Martha reported that 3 goals were solidified.</p>	<p>Dawn had the Strategic Plan attached to last month’s minutes which are posted on the web. Jeanne</p>

		will send a link for all to look at what they have so far.
Next meeting	<p>April 30 10:00am – 2:00pm at Somerset Hospital, Somerset, PA (directions on the web). Agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cynthia and Martha will present “Grantwriting.” (2) Strategic Plan (3) Dept of Public Welfare Co-Sleeping Meeting summary (4) Nikki to e-mail a Co-Sleeping draft to post as an opinion on our web site. (5) Esther Chung’s grant: How do we move forward? 	<p>Jeanne to send hotel information over e-mail.</p> <p>Telephone Conf ended at 1:00pm</p>