

PABC Minutes from Somerset, PA- revised

April 25th, 2007

Those in attendance included Kathy Romberger, Rosa Snyder-Boyd, Judy Gutowski, Nancy Brent, Dawn Blanchard, Tammy Hepburn, Martha Kautz, Dana Maldet, Robin Forosisky, Diane Gorka, Jeanne Spencer, MaryAnn Mihok, Kay Hoover, Cynthia Bartok, Mackensie Thompson, and Wendy Shore.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1000 in Somerset, PA.

I. Old Business

- A. Previous meeting's minutes from the January bridge call have been misplaced. They will be approved at a meeting in the future.
- B. Treasurer's Report-Our total balance as of March 30, 2007 is \$3,908.37 as reported by the Treasurer, Kathy Romberger.
- C. Mission statement revision- A new mission statement was approved with a unanimous vote of the group. The new mission statement, adopted 15 years after the first, now reads: "The mission of the coalition is to facilitate community and statewide efforts to protect, support, and promote breastfeeding as the cultural norm across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."
- D. Strategic Planning- discussion and reporting from MaryAnn Mihok
 1. Goals are the next step now that the mission has been revised and adopted.
 2. A current copy of the by-laws were distributed. The group is tasked with reviewing these by-laws and emailing suggestions for change to Jeanne Spencer as soon as possible after today's meeting.
 3. The group has discussed the need for a dedicated person to move the process along and continue the strategic planning forward. The group decided that Wendy Shore should be this dedicated person. A movement was made, seconded, and accepted. Wendy will accept the task of writing the mini-grant proposal for the Department of Health's two year mini-grant to fund this position. Martha Kautz , MaryAnn Mihok and Jeanne Spencer agreed to help.
- E. Website- most sections are up and running. Our person of contact is Karen Nelson who was not present at the meeting to offer an update. The idea of linking to IBLCE and ILCA's website was raised. Jeanne will find out if Karen really is still the person of contact and whether these links are possible or not. Department of Health is trying to update their WIC lists and add to their website in the near future, according to Martha.
- F. Legislative Update: Senate Bill #34 finally got out of committee after one year and is on the floor for a vote. If it passes, it will continue on to the House for committee discussion. The group voted to send a letter in support of this bill. We all are encouraged to visit our local senator's offices and ask them to vote in favor of this bill. Sending emails are appropriate if you cannot visit their office. A future email will be sent

with a sample letter that you can cut and paste and send on to your local legislators.

- G. Membership- the group decided we need to boost non-lactation members and a list needs to be compiled. A list of unpaid and inactive members needs to be made and Jeanne will attempt to contact them. Cynthia Bartok offered to revise our brochure and “pretty it up.”

II. New Business

- A. IBCLC Licensure- presented by Judy Gutowski, the issues facing IBCLC’s currently across the country were briefly explained. As discussion ensued, Judy explained the first step in applying for licensure in PA is to appropriately submit a document called the Sunrise Evaluation. Step two, known as a “white paper,” is a type of summary or advertisement. This report is distributed to legislators to gain approval for a licensure bill passing in the state congress. It briefly and concisely explains the history of the field and the reasons for applying for licensure. Judy is currently working on the Sunrise Evaluation and asked for help from anyone in the group, as this process continues.

1. The current problem with writing this document is the current scope of practice controversy between ILCA and IBLCE. It is written in the scope of practice that IBCLCs cannot recommend alternative therapies, yet there is no written definition of such therapies. There is also a question of interpretation with another statement that says IBCLCs may not contradict the client’s healthcare provider.
2. In addition to the above listed problems is the decision to write it as a title vs. practice protection. As evidenced by the problems and mistakes made by other states, PA must find the proper licensing board under which IBCLC licensure will be appropriate (ie: Nursing vs. Occupational Therapy Board)
3. MaryAnn Mihok reminded the group that dieticians were licensed recently in PA under the state board of nursing and that a number of case studies exhibiting negative outcomes seemed to be the deciding factor in their gaining state licensure. Judy and MaryAnn decided to talk later about how to collect data to use in the Sunrise report detailing the problems involved with non-licensed and non-registered, certified lactation personnel. This may be very helpful in gaining the necessary approval in the future.

- B. Officer Elections are pending at the July meeting. The position of Secretary and Treasurer need to be filled. Kathy asks everyone in the group to consider volunteering.
- C. Kay Hoover represented PABC on a recent USBC bridge call in April. Of interest from that call is an online journal club that the state of Georgia does. The group discussed doing a conference call via AAP’s “Let’s Talk” Series. Jeanne and Martha to follow up on that idea.
- D. A Mother’s Day Rally is planned for the state capital steps/rotunda for Monday May 7th at 1:30pm. Attendance is vital. This is a large space and it needs to be

filled with supporters. The governor is in support of this rally and Senator Connie Williams is sponsoring it.

- E. Dr. Harvey Karp, author of “The Happiest Baby on the Block,” will be speaking at the Department of Health’s first breastfeeding conference under Martha’s direction- yea, Martha!! It will be held in Camp Hill and the group asked Wendy and Kathy to create a table for exhibit. The target audience is non-lactation. June 7th is the date, registration is only \$20. Contact Martha for registration forms.
- F. Sharing/ Agency Updates-
 1. MaryAnn Mihok, as the Chairman of the PA Nutrition Education Network, reports the Annual Dietician’s conference will be held at the Radisson on May 14th & May 15th Membership in this group is free and anyone may join. She also asks to partner with PABC and the Network.
 2. Kathy Romberger from Pinnacle- They are looking at the Breastfeeding Resource Nurse Program on their unit as a pilot in the fall. The postpartum practice committee working on near term infants not breastfeeding well. (Kay Hoover has a handout and Martha has a power point presentation, both on near term infants bfing, they would be happy to share if you contact them.)
 3. Rosa Snyder-Boyd- reports that Monongahela Valley is closing to OB, nearest delivering hospital is Pittsburgh 25 miles away.
 4. Judy Gutowski from Pittsburgh area- Grand Opening of their Breastfeeding Clinic August 2nd in Pittsburgh. Martha says they are a “model” pediatric practice in supporting breastfeeding.
 5. Dawn Blanchard- reporting that Helen Vermilya retired in May and is a hardship for the Williamsport area for breastfeeding support. Tammy Hepburn is an aspiring LC working hard for IBCLC. A recent survey in her area shows 43 out of 90 moms delivered in July 2006 were still breastfeeding!!
 6. Martha from the state-
 - a. Mini-grants open July 1 for 07-08 and beyond. New electronic filing entire application except the signature sheet which must be postal mailed in. Search breastfeeding mini grant at health.state.pa.us and click on application. Over 60 grants funded the past few years. Judy’s Pittsburgh Clinic used mini-grant money. PSU now has breast pumps in lounges all across the campus for employee and student use thanks to a mini-grant.
 - b. A “Mother’s Own Milk Room” has had good use since it’s opening. News of its use actually made the state’s newsletter!! Yea, Martha!
 - c. Over 300 attended the Nurse In in Berks County. Very organized and peaceful.
 7. Martha as Cyndi Maki from state WIC-
 - a. Recent survey of 2000# pending results in July. Bottle-feeding mothers were asked why they chose to bottle feed and if they were planning more children, they were asked if they would consider breastfeeding in the future.
 - b. WBW 2007 theme is “The Power of One” (1 mom, 1 dad, in

support)

- c. Dr. Karp's Conference in June is part of phase 1 in an education plan. Phase 2 is certifying 250 interested WIC staff, Phase 3 is educating the parents/public.
 - d. Cyndi is asking for input from all of us across the state. She needs to know the availability of pumps and which pumps at the local level of WIC offices. She is trying to enforce the standardized criteria and needs to know what is actually being done vs. what is supposed to be done.
8. Martha from Ephrata- Formula rep activity is increasing. Pinnacle agrees they are seeing that as well. (Kathy elaborated that Nestle is trying to get into hospitals and Kathleen Huggins' book is now in Meade-Johnson's bags. She doesn't like that particular book citing it contains too much bad advice and warns us all to be on the look out.
 9. Cynthia Bartok from Penn State- Clinic barriers include lack of cooperation from in town hospital and lack of money means Kay Hoover can no longer stay and they are looking for ways to prevent clinic from closing!!! On a better note or two, there are now 8 pumping stations across campus! Yea, Cyndi!! And 6 students completed the 2nd course taught by herself and Kay. All are graduating or have graduated.
 10. Kay Hoover- reports a few differences between private practice and clinic such as less latch issues and twins in the clinic setting.
 11. Robin Forsosky from Jeanne's area of Johnstown- they have 50 billboards across their area, they've made "28-weeker" bags for postpartum moms to teach breastfeeding.
 12. Diane Gorka- reports an increase in allergic colitis and using a combination of a certain good elimination diet, that she will share with the group, and pancreatitis MT4 medication that seems to be working.
- II. Committee Work
- A. Public Relations- trying to resurrect the newsletter, a new contact list is needed (KR and MK to work on it.
 - B. Provider Education- working on a tongue-tie article for website
 - C. Strategic Planning- Wendy will work with Jeanne and Martha and MaryAnn on writing the state double mini-grant to fund the salary for the dedicated person to continue the strategic planning of the coalition.
- III. Next meeting/ Future meeting dates and locations
- A. July 18th at Fredrickson Center in Mechanicsburg. Directions will be posted on web in the future, via email until then.
 - B. October 17th at Penn State Lactation Center. Directions will be posted on web in the future, via email until then.
 - C. January 16th 2008 Bridge Call 1200-1400