

Minutes NYSALM Board Meeting  
6/18/15

*In attendanec (conference call):* Karen Jefferson, Carol Bues, Ann Visser, Birdie Condon, Rachel Ritter, Connie Kieltyka, Nancy Kraus, Alice Gilgoff, Susan Rannestad, Sharon Nisengard (Western rep), alternate Kristi Sabatino, alternate Jennifer Kittell, Claudia Gersten

Birdie moved to accept the minutes from the last board meeting and Carol seconded.

Sharon, new board member from Western NY, shared she graduated in 2001 BSN, MSN, worked with Michelle Doyle, is now working as a laborist and has started a hospital owned midwifery practice. Her partner in the practice is Kristi and she is the Western NY alternate.

Karen presented the update of the Birth Center (BC) bill. It is unlikely to pass this session. There was a meeting with the Dept of Health (DOH) and it was negative. Sally Dreslin RN is an ally and the only member who understands our position and the need for BC change in NY.

ACOG District 2 has targeted republican senators and produced hostility toward the bill. We have a plan to regroup in the next week or two to determine how to be successful and refocus for the next session.

Birdie asked why were we discouraged from engaging consumers until the last day or two? Karen responded that Jane thought the bill was going to pass as of last Friday and planned to involve the consumers to engage with the governor re signing the bill. Per Connie K. NYSPA sent a letter of support for the BC bill. Claudia stated she has visited several national BCs and will ask them for letters of support if need be. Karen reached out to Ginger Breedlove re ACOG District II's opposition to our BC bill being in conflict with National ACOG's agenda.

The Finance Committee reviewed highlights of its report, which was distributed to the board via email. The mileage reimbursement at year end was discussed. Audit Committee members Whitney Hall and Nancey Rosensweig completed a year end audit.

The Communications Committee requested more photographs for the website, particularly of horizontal formatted families of color. These should be emailed to Rachel Ritter. Also discussed was the need to update Find-a-Midwife on the ACNM search site. There are many outdated listings. There should be an upcoming Quick eNews following the end of the legislative session.

Impact Committee – no report

Membership Committee – Carol Bues, as leader, can access ACNM recruitment materials.

HIINY Committee & ACOG/NYSALM Collaborative – Kate reported on ACOG District II's using the collaborative against the BC bill causing a pause in the work of the group and the formation of an SOP all on both sides needed to agree on before going forward to establish home to hospital transfer guidelines. The HIINY documents are in review with legal counsel at AIG at this time. HIINY was advised to hold back from release until the end of the legislative session.

#### Lobby Day Report

Overall, lobby day went well. Rachel proposed a one-page sheet of talking points-ABCs of lobbying which would be sent to students and education programs in advance. The sense was that the students were asked to focus on scheduling and needed more early prompting about the ABCs.

#### NYSPA

Connie reported on the excellent response to the tremendous midwifery presence at NYSPA's conference. Ginger Breedlove was well received and the excellent panel on midwifery scope of practice, the need for more BCs in NY and issues with home to hospital transfers was excellent.

#### NYS Breastfeeding

Alice discussed the emphasis was on the Family Leave Bill and protection of right to breastfeeding stations in airports.

Regional Gatherings: Regional midwives were discussed. HV is planning a trek on the Walkway over the Hudson and an after-party during Midwifery Week in October with the theme: Midwifery: Bridging Ancient Wisdom & Modern Science. HV representatives are coordinating with ACNM for this event. Other reps discussed options such as dinner gatherings and various fundraisers.

#### Misc:

We discussed the possibility of hosting the Region I meeting and dovetailing our next annual meeting with the NYSPA conference.

Respectfully and belatedly submitted  
Susanrachel Condon