



## **Direct-Entry Midwifery Relationship & Standards Subcommittee Meeting**

**August 18, 2014**

6:00-8:00 PM

### **Summary Notes**

**Subcommittee Members in Attendance:** Co-Chair Dr. Janice Tildon-Burton, MD, ACOG,; Kris Bennett, DPH; Susan DiNatale, CPM; Nancy Fan, MD, OB/GYN, MSD Joan Greeley, MSC, CNS, LDN, Birth Consumer; **Excused/Absent:** Sarah Culver, DFSB; Dorinda Dove, CNM, BCD; Sandra Elliott, CNM; Mary Lou Gavin, MD, AAP; Matthew Heiger, DFSB; and Steve Newton, PhD, DSU Faculty.

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Dr Tildon-Burton welcomed members and attendees. Members introduced themselves to the audience. Dr.Tildon-Burton led the meeting.

Attendees recognized lack of quorum to approve June minutes or draft subcommittee report.

DPR Director David Mangler, public attendee, noted legislation amending DE Code re: Freedom of Information had been passed this session. Legislation provided additional guidance re: review, correction and posting of public meeting minutes. Prior to being publicly posted within 20 days, draft minutes may be distributed to members of the public committee who were present at the meeting. Minutes are then subsequently approved at an open meeting.

Although June draft minutes have been circulated widely they will be re-sent to members in attendance at the June meeting for review and correction within 10 working days prior to posting on website. Today's meeting draft minutes will be sent to those members in attendance.

Any subcommittee discussion regarding minutes or other subcommittee issues will be held during subcommittee meetings (not via email).

## II. Legislative Update

Sean Dwyer, Legislative Assistant, Delaware House of Representatives, representing Rep. Baumbach in public/audience, provided brief update on direct entry midwifery legislation in 147<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. In short midwifery bill (HS1 for HB 319) easily passed the House (June 25) but did not make it to the Senate agenda.

## III. Update from Members

No updates. Dr Tildon-Burton noted ACOG will next meet in September.

## IV. Draft Subcommittee Report Review and Feedback

Copies of draft subcommittee report were distributed to subcommittee members. Narrative of report was read to subcommittee and public attendees.

1. Utilize Home Birth and Midwifery Standards of Care / Best Practices already established by other states (e.g., Washington and Virginia) and professional organizations listed below.

List of organizations included link to specified organizational standards named except for Birth Center of Delaware (BCD) protocols. Question arose whether BCD protocols might be available online so as to facilitate access, reduce report file size. Kris Bennett will explore with BCD.

2. Seek further input (as needed) from Delaware medical, midwifery, nursing and perinatal professional associations and organizations\* on the following topics related to standards:
  - screening criteria for acceptance for out-of-hospital midwife care
  - maternal/fetal/neonatal circumstances requiring collaboration or transfer
  - suggestions for improved professional collaboration and support among all birth professionals
  - any additional standards recommendation that organization considers important

Subcommittee member requested that recommendation 2 be made clearer regarding the fact that input had previously been requested, but not received from (all but one of) organizations listed. Also requested was need to give definitive deadline when asking for input from organizations.

3. Promote mutual understanding of Delaware's Home Birth/Midwifery, Hospital/Birth Center, Medical and Nursing Communities through shared training and continuing education.

Subcommittee discussed need to edit paragraph on PowerPoint (PPT) presentation under recommendation 3 to make clear that all feedback was not yet incorporated in PPT document, that PPT very much a draft, a work in progress. Group also asked for added clarity re: intended audience for presentations: health care professionals involved in birthing process. In addition, Dr Tildon-Burton will try to connect with PPT author Sarah Culver prior to the next meeting.

Summary notes from all subcommittee meetings as well as draft of PPT (Midwifery & the Medical Community Building Trust to Improve Outcomes) will be attached to Subcommittee Report.

An additional meeting will need to be held so subcommittee can further discuss and finalize Subcommittee recommendations with approval when quorum present. Any subcommittee discussion regarding report will be held during subcommittee meetings not via email.

## **V. Schedule Next Meeting**

Members in attendance agreed that the **next meeting** will be held on **Thursday, September 18 6-8 pm**, at the same location, DPH Offices, Large Training Room, Edgehill Shopping Center, Dover.

## **VI. Public Comment**

Subcommittee member Susan DiNatale requested permission to read a prepared statement. Within statement Ms. DiNatale expressed frustration and disappointment in: continuing lack of access to legal midwifery services, actions of those who supported their 'trade' organizations vs progress, and, in general, the status quo in Delaware re: midwifery/ maternal-child outcomes.

Public attendees declined an opportunity for additional public comment.

**Public Attendance** (elective sign-in): Shannon Burdeshaw; Sean Dwyer, Legislative Ass't, Delaware House of Representatives(Rep. Baumbach); Andrew, Molly and Ben Greeley; David Mangler, Director, Division of Professional Regulations; Jen Rini, News Journal; Yvonne Steele, Jephtha VanDunk, Policy-Regulations Subcommittee member; Drew Wilson.

## **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.