

NYSALM Minutes December 5 2016 GT Offices New York City

Respectfully submitted by Susanrachel Condon

Attending: Sasha Conterelli, Lily Dalke, Martha Harvey, Maria Luisa Mendoza, Kathy Herron, Trinisha Williams, Alice Gilgoff, Sharon McDowell, Karen Jefferson, Kate Finn, Deborah Paley, Ann Visser, Eva Faulkner, Dia Sheppardson, Lynn Fisher, Nancy Kraus, Pat Burkhardt, Rachel Ritter, Susanrachel Condon, Mimi Niles, Sharon Neisengard, Ximena Rossato Bennett (FNU), Jenna Hutchins (FNU), Eva Baine, Christine Borden, Jen Johnson, Medea Mindikauri (NYU), Noelle Brodeur (NYU), Jillian E'Eramo (NYU), Flannery Fontinell (NYU), Joan Combellick via phone, Claudia Gerston via phone

Pat Burkhardt moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting with corrections, Alice Gilgoff seconded. The minutes were accepted.

Karen Jefferson presented an overview of the structure of the organization and gave the review of recent accomplishments, including passage of the Birth Center Bill, development of the new logo and website, renewed active relationships with NYCDOH and NYSDOH, our members' presentations at NYS Perinatal Association, ACNM and Midwives of North America conferences. In addition, she noted increased interaction with ACOG D2, the Quality Committee/HIINY creation and dissemination of a hospital outreach packet, IMPACT's inroads into credentialing issues, and the formation of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee and Student Committees. NYSALM received a \$10K grant from NYSDOH for Zika outreach. Karen also presented on the state of midwifery in NYS, with 2014 statistics. She reviewed strategic goals to grow and sustain NYSALM, increase access to midwifery care, and to increase midwifery visibility in the community.

We discussed next steps for development of legislative, regulatory and policy initiatives:

Support for ACNM, ACOG and AWHONN efforts

Reviewing language of midwifery practice act

Using the workforce study and practice director round table in NYC to encourage policy changes at hospitals

Reaching out to other organizations to present at our affiliate meetings/education sessions

Karen expressed enormous gratitude to outgoing secretary Michelle Doyle. She also acknowledged the invaluable work of outgoing VP Susan Rannestad, with particular emphasis on her diplomatic outreach to consumer groups and the AABC during the legislative process on the Birth Center Bill.

GT report: Jane Preston stated that ACOG's having already approached DOH with its concerns may work to NYSALM's advantage as it puts the BCB in DOH's attention. GT plans to meet with DOH in January to start our discussion about regulations, facility and construction requirements and, in particular, the burdensome Certificate Of Need process. DOH is on notice about these issues already. A committee will be developed and should include a BC director/midwife, and hospital based midwives. The committee will review CABG Guidelines for accreditation.

Sascha Conterelli was appointed by the board to the VP position. Following brief discussion of her many qualifications, the motion was made by Ann Visser and seconded by Susanrachel Condon. She was unanimously elected. Mimi Niles was appointed the new secretary.

Mimi Niles reported from Nominating Committee on the recent election of 4 Region Reps, which was completed via online voting demonstration project. There was brief discussion about moving forward with online elections. Overall, the process went smoothly.

NYC Regional Rep Sascha Conterelli

Alternate Trinisha Williams

Mid-state Regional Rep Julie Carlson

Alternate Linda Lovig

Northeast Region Alternate Michelle Doyle

Western Region Alternate Caitlin LeGros

## REGIONAL REPORTS

### Western Region Report

Birth Center in Buffalo is struggling and births are primarily attended by the physician owner.

Caitlin deGros is recently relocated from DC area and is enthusiastic about becoming active in the affiliate.

### HV Report

There is interest from a number of region midwives in opening birth centers. Hudson Valley Hospital was bought by NY Presbyterian but this has not appeared to impact midwifery practice thus far. Health Quest completed their bylaws change and now CMs may be employed there and at Northern Dutchess Hospital. Jenna Stout Smith CM will begin working there this week.

### LI Region Report

Stonybrook is sponsoring a Spinning Babies workshop and a mentoring program for students and new grads. Huntington Hospital is growing a midwifery practice. Nassau is declining due to an unsupportive chair. Stonybrook Midwifery Practice is growing and hiring to cover the South Side of LI which has no midwives and a high CS rate. There's a lot of support for starting a new practice there.

### Western NY Region Report

Grants from Western and Central NY Foundation were given to improve midwifery access and business of midwifery in the region. Julie Carlson is taking over as regional representative.

### Northeast Region Report

Michelle Doyle is the new alternate. Working on bylaws changes at Hudson Headwaters with Catherine Leopold. Trying to get more involvement from local midwives from Glens Falls. Serena Coombs still waiting to change language CM/LM and to give midwives direct admitting privileges. In January she plans to work with Michelle to get midwives together to be more actively involved.

### NYC Region Report

Miles4Midwives was a success in spite of regional organizational difficulties. There is consideration of moving the program statewide. Attendance by midwives at city council meetings was encouraged. Midwives were invited to NYC doula access meeting. They have support of NYCDOH. Woodhull is becoming baby friendly, working on perinatal mental health disorders, a bilingual program in donated

conference room. Jen Wylan is starting a safety pin program to mark the site as a safe space for citizens and immigrants concerned about being marginalized, discriminated against or deported by the incoming Trump administration. They are also opening up an LGBTQ clinic modeled after Metropolitan Hospital's. Jen Johnson offered guidance about running M4M through different regions in the state.

Treasurer in absentia. Her report will be posted on the website, in the Finance Committee section.

Budget proposal submissions for 2017 postponed until later in the month. All committees have been urged to prepare and submit them in a timely fashion.

#### Finance Committee - Ann Visser

Ann Visser recommended a bonus to GT since the BCB passed this year. The money will be taken out of reserves in accordance with the requirements of the bylaws. Reinvested CD that came mature. Now it's gaining 1.5%. We are supposed to submit our records for audit this coming year. Ann will ask Nancy Rosensweig and Whitney Hall to do it again. Ann recommended the development of a fundraising committee. Pat Burkhardt moved to approve the bonus for GT. Karen Jefferson seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Insurance Committee - Beth Cooper

Beth Cooper (new Chair) reports working toward improving credentialing with The NYSHIP Empire Plan in the North Country. There will be ad hoc meetings several times annually and work on specific reimbursement and credentialing issues. There will be 4-5 general members. Lily Dalke moved to accept the presented SROP with minor amendments and Susan Rachel Condon seconded. The motion passed.

#### Nan Strauss - reporting on Choices in Childbirth (CIC) research paper on midwifery in NY

CIC is working on gathering data from two surveys: one is the Voices of Mothers Survey for consumers and the other is a workforce survey for midwives. For the moment, focus on the latter has been tabled. They are working on acquiring more responses from consumers of maternity care. A number of endeavors to do this were discussed. Nan gave a flyer for dissemination of the information to the public. CIC visited midwives in Syracuse, Rochester, the Capital Region, Ithaca and Westchester to discuss practice strengths and barriers to practice. The paper is approximately 80% finished. Karen proposed that a NYSALM rep and a midwifery education program director look it over prior to publishing. Nan was receptive to this idea.

#### Communications Committee - Rachel Ritter

Rachel Ritter reports she is working on developing an archive and a podcast. Discussed standardization of language on gender flexibility. The board encouraged CC to continue working on the Vision/Mission statements. New things needed with new logo: banners, brochures, thank you notes, business cards. Those with prior logo have been discarded.

#### IMPACT Committee - Lily Dalke

CM issue: Outreach to Trinity Health in Michigan. St. Peter's in Albany is a member of this network and is going forward with the language change. Sharon McDowell talked about differentiating degrees of "risk" for defining midwifery roles in writing. Glens Falls leadership changed to Sue Pantano - no change in bylaws. Allen Pavillion tabled because unresponsive/few inroads. Working on restricting or

eliminating midwives. Megan O'Connor, Maureen Murphy and Liz Pickett are CMs with privileges at Ellis/Bellevue in Troy. Heidi Ricks waiting to hear on her application there. Health Quest has been buying small practices. Care Mount Medical turned down CM who had already worked there when it was MidHudson Medical Group. NY Pres will credential at Hudson Valley Hospital but no CMs are there now. Northern Westchester has 8 midwives, no CMs. Northern Dutchess/Vassar/Putnam DO credential CMs.

Changing language on MidwifeJobs.com is coming around. Changing SANE language tabled because of CMs requiring a second examiner when "victim" is male.

Outreach to membership about med-mal issues via listserv ongoing.

Quality Committee - Kate Finn

HIINY has been working to develop internal standard policies on receiving transfers from planned home births. The committee has reached out to some of the 17 Regional Perinatal Centers - Strong Rochester accepted the HIINY recommendations with a local home birth midwife. Paul Burcher will be our internal ally in Albany. SUNY Stonybrook also ready to go. Seeking institutions in NYC. Kate is working with Karen on seeking receptive NYC institutions. We are stressing it is normative to do this process according to Saras Vedam, who has been serving as a consult on demographics and benchmarking across North America. Tracking quality in NY - showing favorable stats. CIC report will be timely. Kate and Karen are going to DOH this week to talk about the perinatal quality collaborative and the PHB transfer guidelines. PowerPoint presentation and discussion. This may impact the reception at DOH regarding BC regulations at the meeting in January.

Diversity & Inclusion - Maria Luisa Mendoza and Rachel Ritter

Rachel and Maria will attend and present at Mentors in Medicine 12/17/16, hosting a table presenting at the fair. This is an opportunity to present about the midwifery profession. SUNY New Paltz Women's and Gender Studies Department has invited us to present at its feminist theory class. Also seeking like opportunities in other departments.

Student Committee - Maria Luisa Mendoza

SRQP presented. See website, committee section. Pat Burkhardt moved to accept the SRQP and Karen Jefferson seconded. Unanimously accepted with minor amendments.

Membership Committee - Trinisha Williams

641 members according to ACNM. There are outreach issues.

Membership will propose to ACNM a "trial" membership for 2 years with all benefits to increase involvement, interest and membership numbers.

Bylaws Committee - Pat Burkhardt

Committee will be meeting in January. Putting specific job descriptions in, adding updated mission/vision statements and updates on committees.

Program Committee - Susanrachel Condon

The program committee reported that the annual meeting and retreat was attended by many more students than LMs. The speakers were engaging and well received. Overall, the event was a success and did not go over budget. NYSALM is preparing to host the Region I Meeting in October of 2017.

Dates and location TBA. There was discussion about attending the Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremonies in Seneca Falls if Doris Haire is inducted.

January meeting for budget - probably by conference call

February - phone board meeting 2/9 5:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM