

NYSALM – SEPTEMBER 28, 2018
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – ALBANY AT GT

09-28-2018

NYSALM Board Meeting - Greenberg Traurig - Albany, NY

Respectfully submitted by Mimi Niles

Attendees:

Kate Finn- Board
 Mimi Niles - Board
 Sascha James-Conterelli - Board
 Marian Seliquini - Board
 Caitlin LeGros - Board
 Susan Rannenstad
 Nicole DiNuccio

Phone:

April Ward - Board
 Genevra DiLorenzo – student rep
 Kelly Walker
 Sarah Donnelley
 Laure Giles
 Suzanne Smith
 Ashley Meccariello
 Amanda Elam
 Amanda Atkins
 Helena Grant
 Lily Dalke
 Elizabeth Cooper

General

- May 2018, Board meeting minutes approved.
- Clarify on communication strategy – it is to share information ?
- Need to update and standardize SROP committees to be in alignment with bylaws.
- We will consider ***Liaison Reports*** to be in ongoing communication with NYSALM
- NYS CPMs are beginning to organize and advocating for state licensure
- **Final December/Annual Meeting** -may include education session

Committee Reports: Kate Finn

Quality: not actively meeting,

- Finalizing homebirth transfer guidelines.
- Outreach to hospitals as able, requires time, travel and effort
- Presented to Buffalo – no follow up
- Crouse Hospital – creating transfer guidelines
- Need to return to NYS DOH to revisit guidelines

Insurance: Beth Cooper

- Sent reports with attachments
- Committee stays in communication via email, connect and video conferencing

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- Divided into subcommittees in September: 1) Liability (Debora Bissonnette) & 2) Reimbursement (Beth)
- Provider Grid sent to GT as well as summary. This will be used to engage or locate all independent practices throughout the state AND indicate those that are not carrying MP insurance and why.
- Meet with Excellus - BC/BS Upstate Insurer group / Medicaid managed care. Issues with credentialing CM in Auburn, which was resolved. Not sure about elsewhere.
- Huge variation throughout the region in malpractice insurance rates and reimbursement rates, particularly between upstate and downstate
- Increased premiums (surcharge) for attending TOLAC births in some areas
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ACTION ITEMS

- Please help the committee flesh out the grid to gain a more robust sense of practices throughout the state. Send info to Beth or Deb. – all members
- Consider Google form – to collect information for independent practices.
- Share this information with GT – for them to begin building strategy.

Finance Committee: (*Pat Burkhardt, Ann Visser*)

- Report sent, please review and send comments on line.
- Open slot for Treasurer (2019-2021)– Ashley Meccariello is considering this position with support from immediate past committee reps (Pat B and Ann V)

Nominating Committee:

- Treasurer: Ashely Meccariello – is willing to assume the position. To be appointed.
- Will need to have replacement rep. for LI – no alternate.
- Hudson Valley: needs alternate
- NE NY: needs alternate

Program Committee:

- **Accepted SROP**

Legislative committee (Pat Burkhardt)

- **Accepted SROP**
- Lobby Day was well attended. Evaluations were positive overall. However, preparation with more time beforehand and readiness to address bills and issues were cited as needing to be strengthened. Costs were as budgeted.
- NYSALM supported or actively lobbied for 9 bills, of which 5 were same-as-bills with versions in both houses and the remaining 4 were Assembly only bills. Of the same-as-bills 3 passed the Assembly while none passed the Senate. All Senate versions stalled in Committee, 3 in January, 1 in February and 1 in March.
- Plans to draft the 2019 legislative agenda for presentation at the December BOD meeting.

Nominating committee

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- Consider ‘Governance Committee’ – which would include nominating, on-boarding, bylaws?
- Vacancies in Alternates for Long Island and North East, Hudson Valley (alternate)
- Vacancy for Treasurer as of the end of this year – 2018; Ashley Meccariello is considering the position. With that as a consideration we also talked about possible candidates for LI rep.
- Reach out to Alternate rep for NE – Jennifer Kittle and if she would consider stepping into the role.

Reported Liaisons: (more detailed report from each liaison)

- Perinatal Redesignation – Sascha James-Conterelli
- Governor’s Task Force on Maternal Mortality – Sascha James-Conterelli
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, District II – Sascha James-Conterelli
- NYS Maternal Mortality Review Committee – Aleida Llanes-Oberstein and Sascha James-Conterelli
- NYC Maternal Mortality Review Committee – Helena Grant, Patricia Loftman, Mimi Niles
- Doula Coalition Governor’s Medicaid Doula Pilot Project – Lily Dalke
- SED Board of Midwifery – exploring
- NYS Perinatal Association – Karen Johnson-Feltham
- Coalition for Breastfeeding – Melissa Morelli-Walsh
- NYS Birth Center Association – Whitney Hall
- Title VIII Coalition – Linda Lovig
- National: National Perinatal Association – Susan Altman
- National: ACNM Board, Ex Officio– Patricia Loftman
- National: ACNM Committee for Advocates for the Certified Midwife (C-MAC) – Karen Jefferson
- National: AMCB Board -- Elizabeth Picket, unconfirmed
- National: ACME Board -- Suzanne Schecter
- National: Home Birth Summit – Kate T Finn
- NYS Association of Rural Health – Kate T Finn, exploring
- Planned Parenthood, statewide – exploring
- NY March of Dimes – exploring
- NY CPMs – pending organizing

NYS Taskforce on Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcomes –(Sascha James-Conterelli)

- Patient Stories presented
- Doula Pilot Program – NPI, billable, (Kings County, Eerie County)
- Mary Thompson – midwife member
- Taskforce includes community reps, doula reps, physician reps
- Access, quality, choice and respectful maternity care as key themes for consideration

ACTION ITEMS:

- Requiring continuing education re: maternal mortality and racial disparities
- NYSALM formal response – we are LICENSED provider with full accountability and we need to understand the doulas role, guidelines and directives. (Executive Committee – with GT)

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New York State MMR Board –

- Legislation was not passed
- Still to be developed with regional focus and collaboration

Region Reports:

Long Island (Ashley Meccariello)

1. Northwell Health

- **North Shore University Hospital, and Long Island Jewish Medical Center: Katz Women's Health Center** (0.1% births attended by midwives) offer maternity services and NO have full scope midwives on staff.
- **Huntington Hospital** hospital-based midwifery practice with Michele Mayer LM, Laura Jabbour LM, Jessica Hilsenroth LM, and Lindsay Price LM.
- Attempts were made at **Southside Hospital** by a group of midwives to initiate the process of obtaining privileges. The outcome last heard was the administration recommended that
 - Midwives partner with existing physician practices and obtain privileges as part of those practices or
 - Midwives form a group (practice or network) and introduce themselves as a midwifery service bringing in their own clientele to the hospital. The volume of midwifery clients will be an important factor in the consideration process (no specific number discussed).

2. Nassau University Medical Center (NuHealth- A Northwell Health Affiliate) has five private midwifery practices with admitting privileges (South Shore Midwives- Rochel Leiberman, LM, City Midwifery- Christiane McClosky, LM, Barbara Charles, LM, Salwaa Health Midwifery- Saidah Haziz-Ramadhan LM, Gaia Midwives- Ashley Meccariello, LM, Amanda Sini, LM, Colleen Heinze, LM, WHNP.) They have a water birth suite, but it is hard to utilize due to the frequent shortage of nursing staff.

3. Winthrop NYU Langone continues to partner with the Long Island Doula Association to offer free doula services to all patients in labor through a volunteering program. Winthrop also is participating in ACNM's Reducing Primary Cesarean Initiative. Melanie Summersille, LM, Donna Grand, LM and Marilyn Charles, LM have privileges at this hospital. Pending privileges for Jackie Linder CNM (hired by OB Practice). They have wireless monitoring, an early labor walking path, and tremendous nursing support.

4. Stony Brook University Hospital has acquired Southampton Hospital. The Stony Brook Midwives continue to offer Centering Pregnancy and they now offer a hospital-based doula training program in collaboration with Long Island Doula Association. Also, the Stony Brook Midwives are participating in ACNM's Reducing Primary Cesarean Initiative.

5. South Nassau Hospital currently has two private practice midwives that have privileges; Diane Lucks (FemmPro OBGYN) and Linda Jaworowski (Gentle Care OB/GYN PC).

6. A licensed midwife from Long Island (Elizabeth Morrison, LM) has accepted a position at **Nyack Hospital** (Nyack, NY) providing full-scope midwifery services.

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7. **Catholic Health Services: Saint Charles, Saint Catherine of Sienna, and Good Samaritan** are private catholic hospitals that (according to their website and word of mouth) are not offering full-scope midwifery services.
8. **Home Birth:**
 - Baldwin Midwifery Services, Baldwin, NY (Jeannette Breen LM) attends births at home.
 - Gaia Midwives, Kings Park and Riverhead, NY (Ashley Meccariello LM, Amanda Sini LM, Colleen Heinze LM, WHNP) attend births at home and in hospital (Nassau University Medical Center).
 - Northshore Midwifery Services, Rocky Point, NY (Janet Titmus LM, Gayle Eckey CPM) attend births at home.
 - Salwaa Health Midwifery, Hauppauge and Roosevelt (Saidah Haziz-Ramadhan LM)
9. **Long Island Midwives**
 - May 12th, 2018 Heckscher State Park, East Islip, NY; was a success!
 - Mentor Program: Helping match up graduate-midwives or new-to-practice midwives with experienced/seasoned midwives as mentors.
10. East End Birth Network: Non-profit organization that is working towards improving maternity care options for families in eastern Long Island. Advocating for practicing midwives at Southampton Hospital.

Mid-state: (Central NY) (April Ward)

- Great success with profit from Spinning Babies
- Provided SJ ticket rate – 13 tickets/at 30.00
 - Consider Social justice rates for all NYSALM events
- Events for Syracuse/Utica Areas.
- Trying to assess midwifery practices in area
- Ongoing issues: with MD collaboration, lack of transfer, lack of respectful maternity care,

Action Items

- Not signing birth certificates? Need to clarify. (Rochester Regional Health, Binghamton area hospitals)

GT: Beth and Jane

- Birth center regulations: (Kelly Owen, Megan Baldwin)
- Redesignation efforts at DOH – is not the lead on this
- Mark Hennessey – gathered info
- Regulations are close to be finalizing, need to go through legal – though will probably not move till after election. GT advocated for midwifery-led model CON; Article 28 is a big issue
- Would like to see a draft – may or may not happen

ACOG – Christa Christakis

- Proposal for Establishment for NYS MMR Board
- Need for funding and resources for creating and sustainability
- Postpartum care – consider extend out for a year for reimbursement
- If the State Senate turns democratic – strong push for RHA, Preterm birth,
- Legislative vs. standards of practice and making sure that practice is not all legislated

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- Communication re: homebirth guidelines and transfers is encouraged

Western NY: (Caitlin LeGros)

Had to leave early – will submit

Hudson Valley (Marian Seliquini)

- Regional meeting – Newburgh – October 28, 2018; social/educational event
- Creating database of all practicing midwives – hard time soliciting hospital-based midwives
- Reimbursement/Insurance issues
- Needs alternate

New York City (Trinisha Williams-not present, Anne Gibeau-not present)

- NYC Midwives – Miles for Midwives (Prospect Park; October 6, 2018)
- Decolonizing Birth Conference (Ancient Song Doulas): no LM presenting, no local midwives presenting, Nicole DiNuccio – tabled for NYSALM,

Medical Malpractice – meeting with GT, Beth Cooper, Sascha, Kate

- Senator Seward (Chair, Malpractice Committee)
 - Meeting with Karen Jefferson & Kate Finn for Lobby Day – need to send information to his aide

Northern NY (Claudia Gersten) – not present

Nominating Committee: Mimi Niles

- Treasurer: 2019-2022
- Open slot/alternates

Communication Committee: Tanya Willis – not present

Student Representative to Board: Genevra DiLorenzo

Diversity & Inclusion Committee: Not present

G&T Update: Beth Sacco and Jane Preston

- Bring award to Andrea Stuart Cousins constituent meeting
- Meeting with Executive/Governor's office – limited agenda. (Kelly Owens, Megan Baldwin)
- Email Maximizing MW report to Beth and Jane
- Birth Center regulations – need to push the DOH – revisit CoN, help us convene the DoH to work collaboratively to get something done that is reasonable and workable
- MMR Board: ejected funding from budget – legislature wanted a thoughtful stature.
- We understand that the Assembly had their own agenda r/t MMR –
- Doula care? What is our position?
- Maternity care shortage areas - -- not being cared for by OBs, lack of access to quality PNC, MW workforce is able to fill these shortage areas.

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- Medicaid reimbursement rates – not compliant to federal regs. – Fair reimbursement
- Lack of access – finding ways to increase access and services is a multi-pronged approach.

Upcoming Dates of interest:

- October 6, 2018 – Miles for Midwives, Prospect Park, NYC
- ACOG District II – Oct 19-20; – Grand Hyatt, NYC
- December 3rd, 2018 – Greenburg Taurig NYC