

FINAL APPROVED
ADVISORY BOARD ON MIDWIFERY
Minutes
January 29, 2021
Electronic Meeting

The Advisory Board on Midwifery met virtually on Friday, January 29, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center; 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia, 23233.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kim Pekin, CPM, Chair
Rebecca Banks, CPM, Vice-Chair
Erin Hammer, CPM
Natasha Jones, MSC, Citizen
Ami Keatts, M.D.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Michael Sobowale, LLM, Deputy Director
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Beulah Baptist Archer, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Kim Pekin called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES

Dr. Harp announced the emergency egress procedures for those who may be attending the virtual meeting in the Perimeter Center.

ROLL CALL –The roll was called, and a quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of OCTOBER 9, 2020

Becky Banks moved to approve the October 9, 2020 minutes. Ami Keatts seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ami Keatts moved to adopt the agenda. Becky Banks seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the agenda was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Tammi McKinley, President of the Virginia Midwife Alliance, made a presentation to the Advisory Board addressing the support of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) for midwives to have access to life-saving medications.

Becky Banks made a motion to add this item to the agenda for discussion under new business. Ami Keatts seconded. By roll call vote, the amendment to add this item to the agenda was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of High-Risk Pregnancy Disclosures - Guidance Document 85-10

Kim Pekin discussed suggested revisions to the guidance document. Dr. Harp said it would be best to convene an Ad Hoc Committee for review of the proposed revisions. The Ad Hoc would include 2 Board of Medicine members and 2 members of the Advisory to finalize changes to the guidance document. He thought this meeting could be a virtual one.

Ms. Yeatts advised that the final recommendations will have to be reviewed by the Full Board, and thereafter posted for 40 days of public comment prior to the guidance document being approved.

Becky Banks made a motion to convene an Ad Hoc Committee to review the suggested revisions to the guidance document. Ami Keatts seconded. By roll call vote, the motion was approved.

B. Discuss Guidance Document for Perinatal and Postpartum Screening for Depression.

Dr. Harp directed the Advisory Board's attention to the November 2020 Board Briefs article on this topic. He suggested that it be disseminated to the midwifery community rather than developing a guidance document.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report of the 2021 General Assembly - Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts discussed bills of interest in the General Assembly, including Senate Bill 1320 that creates a new profession, Licensed Certified Midwifery. This new category of midwifery does not have medical/nursing training, but does take the same credentialing exam as Certified Nurse Midwives.

A workgroup of the Boards of Medicine and Nursing will be convened to study the licensure and regulation for the 3 different midwifery professions and report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 2021.

2. Access to COVID-19 Vaccines and PPE for Licensed Midwives

Advisory Board members conveyed the difficulty in getting clear guidance for vaccination sites in Virginia for midwives. It was pointed out that the Department of Health was leading the vaccination effort and information would most likely be forthcoming in the near future. Acquisition of PPE for midwives has not presented any problems.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beulah Archer provided the licensing report. The total number of licensees is 97, with 70 current active with Virginia addresses, 26 current active out-of-state, and 1 current inactive.

NEXT MEETING DATE

May 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Kim Pekin adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

Kim Pekin, CPM, Chair

William L. Harp, MD
Executive Director

Beulah Baptist Archer, Licensing Specialist

