

OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 7, 2018

On a motion made, seconded and unanimously approved, the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Chairperson, Dr. Kai Parker. Also present at the meeting were Committee members Jan Kriebs, Harold Fox, Julie Perkins, Karen Webster, Jessica Watkins and Elizabeth Reiner. Staff members present were Ann Tyminski, Administrator, Shirley Devaris, Director of Legislation and Regulations, and Lindsey Snyder, AAG, Committee Counsel.

Several visitors were in attendance: Alyssa Kinney, Jennifer Chaffee, Kirra Brandon, and Deidre, Elvis-Peterson. Caitlin McDonough and Evie Fielding were present by telephone.

Introductions were suggested by Dr. Parker so that everyone could know who was present from the Committee, staff, and public.

**Minutes**

The minutes were approved with one correction; conservation should be changed to conversation.

**Open Meetings Act**

The Open Meetings Act as it affects Boards and their Committees was presented by Lindsey Snyder, AAG. The purpose of this act is to show transparency in the actions of the Board of Nursing and its Committees and it applies to all State agencies. Each Committee needs to have a member who will take the training that is offered for the Open Meetings Act. It is recommended that two members of each Committee and/or Board take the training and provide staff with a copy of the training completion certificate. The course is found on the Attorney General's website and takes approximately one hour to complete. The DEMs Committee volunteers for training are Jan Kriebs, CNM, Karen Webster, LDEM and Jessica Watkins, Public Member.

**Ethics Regulations**

Shirley Devaris reported that she has redrafted the DEMs Ethics Regulations and they will go to the Board of Nursing for approval.

**Data Collection Form**

Jessica Watkins reported that she and Elizabeth Reiner have been working on revisions to the Data Collection Form to make it specifically adhere to the Statute. It is currently 24 pages long which is a lot for someone to complete. She suggested that questions be referred to the Direct-Entry Midwives who have previously filled out the form. There was a question as to the correct definition of post-partum. It was felt that a definition can be drafted and included with the Ethics Regulations proposal.

Ms. Kriebs mentioned the role of a peer review. Who obtains the data that is gathered in the data collection form? Ms. Snyder said the statute lists 9 items of data to be collected and suggested that those 9 items be the only data submitted to the Legislature. The Board could, in the future, request other information but that information would not be included in the required report to the Legislature. Ms. Devaris concurred that the Committee should stick to the questions raised in the Statute. She explained the composition of the House and Senate Committees would be changing in the 2019

Legislative session. The Legislature is interested in finding out what is happening in the practice of Direct-Entry Midwifery in Maryland and that was the purpose of the statutorily required information. Ms. Reiner said the Committee needs to be clear as to what is required in Statute and also the required data should be made clear to those who are providing the information through the Data Collection report. The original form collects extra information that does not need to be reported to the Legislature. AIMM has excellent statistics on various data.

When the data collection form is ready for Committee review, either Ms. Watkins or Ms. Reiner will e-mail it to Mrs. Tyminski who will make copies for the Committee to review. It was suggested that four lines of spaces is sufficient for someone to answer each question. The target date for this review is the February 8, 2019 meeting. There will be no January meeting. That will give sufficient time for any revisions to be made to the new form and have it approved by the Board of Nursing by its June, 2019 meeting. The form should be sent out to all licensees by July 1, 2019. Ms. Reiner had a formatting question and was told to e-mail Karen E. B. Evans, Executive Director about her concern or question.

#### **Checklist**

Some members of the Committee desire a checklist be attached to the new licensee letter. Volunteers for this project are Julia Perkins and Karen Webster. Thus far the Committee had no suggestions or questions about this checklist.

#### **Definitions**

The Committee decided that Immediate Post-Partum should be defined as 6 weeks after delivery. The term, "Immediate Post-Partum" is not presently defined so that the data collected may not be accurate. The Committee suggested this needs to be clarified for direct-entry midwives.

On a motion made by Jan Kriebs, seconded and unanimously voted, the Committee requests a regulation change to define maternal immediate post-partum as being 72 hours after birth and six weeks as the general post-partum period. For infants the post-partum period ends at 72 hours because transfer of care takes place at 72 hours or earlier. Ms. Devaris said she may be able to add this definition to the Ethics regulations which will be held up for adoption until after the Legislative session.

#### **Discoverable Midwifery Peer Review Report**

Ms. Kriebs asked if AIMM has a discoverable direct-care midwifery review. Karen Webster indicated she would find out. Ms. Kriebs asked if a peer review of a death is discoverable.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further Committee business, Ms. Kriebs moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. The Committee unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann E. Tyminski, Administrator