

Meeting minutes - Initial Meeting

5/16 6:30 pm ET

Start time: 3:34 pm

End time: 4:20 pm

Attendance:

Geraldine Maurer, *chair*

Ellen Taylor, *public policy committee member*

Alanna Hendrickson, *legislative committee student intern*

Nicole Rodi

Marlane Zlotek

Betty Braxter

Mary Beth Tallman-Baker

Maria Brooks

Introductions

- Specialties of our committee include FNP, labor & delivery, women's health, fertility treatment, pediatrics, emergency department, nursing education, CNM, Associate Dean

Orientation to Committee - Gerri

- Seth Chase, government affairs representative for AWHONN, directed the orientation that Gerri attended
- Orientation slides will be sent out via email
 - Includes contact information for AWHONN and hierarchy
 - All members should look over slides before July meeting
 - Send questions to Gerri or Seth (share answer with group)
- Our committee will share the responsibility of the "legislative coordinator" role

Policy Committee - Ellen

- Seth Chase is the AWHONN leader
- Ellen Taylor joined in January
- Runs AWHONN on the Hill
- Writes position statements based on legislation
- Meets monthly

- Two year position assignments

AWHONN National Priorities - Gerri & Ellen

- MOMMA's act - Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness
 - Status: out of committee, will be voted upon
 - Goal is to improve reporting, maternal health grant programs, share best practices, medicaid coverage for things that are not currently covered
 - Had not previously included donor milk, Gerri brought that to attention
 - Slides on MOMMA's act will be shared
 - Members to review slides before July meeting
- Workplace Violence Act
 - Did not pass last year, 2022
- Perinatal Workforce Act
 - Patient's are more receptive to HCPs of same background and race as them
 - Addresses racial disparities
 - More doulas and midwives of color
 - \$\$\$ to train POC as doulas and midwives
 - Will send talking points on PWA via email

Priorities at PA level - Gerri

- Support for Medicaid coverage for Donor Milk
 - Denise O'Connor, IBCLC and Executive Director Mid-Atlantic MMB, contacted Gerri
 - AWHONN is in full support, will write letters of support
 - Chrissy Houlahan, Representative D-PA of 6th District, is in favor

Actions - Gerri

- Information will be shared from Gerri & Ellen
- Know your senators and representatives at state/federal levels
- Know the AWHONN priorities
- Write letters of support as a committee

- Will ask Seth if committee members can get the AWHONN Legislative Handbook
- Share talking points about national priorities
- Share resource with link to policy committee, committee members, media/advocacy/journals, coalitions/alliance

- Before July: review orientation slides, review talking points and resources, read position statements