

**Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee**  
**Maryland Board of Nursing**  
**4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215**  
**Open Session Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**October 1, 2021**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Committee Members</b>			
Elizabeth Reiner	Committee member (LDEM) and Co-Chairperson, Reappointment ends 12/31/2021	X	
Jessica Watkins	Committee member(consumer)Appointment ends 12/31/2021	X	
Karen Webster	Committee member (LDEM) Appointment ends 12/31/2023	X	
Dr. Kai Parker	Chairperson (LDEM) Reappointment ends 12/31/2021	X	
Jan Kriebs	Committee member (CNM) Reappointment ends 12/31/2022	X	
Roxann Gordon	Committee member (CNM) Appointment ends 12/31/2024		X
Dr. Harold Fox	Committee Reappointment ends 12/31/2021	X	
<b>Board Staff</b>			
Michael Conti, AAG	Board Counsel	X	
Margaret Lankford, AAG	Board Counsel		X
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice, Board Staff	X	
		X	
<b>Guests:</b>			
Paige Barocca, LDEM	President, Association of Independent Midwives of MD (AIMM)	X	
Jennifer Witten	Vice President, Government Policy, Maryland Hospital Association	X	
Caitlyn McDonough	Association of Independent Midwives of MD (AIMM) and the MD Families for Safe Birth	X	
Jane Krienke	Maryland Hospital Association	X	
Traci LaValle	Senior Vice-President, Maryland Hospital Administration	X	
		X	

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
1. Call to Order	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, Board staff member</p>	<p>There were 6 Committee members present meeting the requirement for a quorum.</p> <p>The meeting was held by conference call and the call-in information and agenda were posted on the Board's website.</p>	<p>At 10:08 A.M. the meeting was called to order by Dr. Kai Parker.</p>
2. Review and Approval of the July 2, 2021, July 23, 2021, August 6, 2021, and August 20, 2021, open session meeting minutes	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Karen Webster, LDEM, Committee member</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, Board staff member</p>	<p>Dr. Parker provided an update to the Committee that the Board sent a letter to Dr. Ariana Kelly to extend the date the study report and recommendations from September 30, 2021, to the end of October, after the information was presented to the Board at the October 27, 2021, open session Board meeting.</p> <p>Karen Webster provided a document to share with the Committee following a meeting of the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland members with Ms. Caitlyn McDonough.</p> <p>The Committee members were provided with the documents for their review of the revised August 20, 2021, and September 3, 2021, open session meetings minutes for review.</p>	<p>A motion was made to accept and approve the September 3, 2021 open session meeting minutes by Dr. Harold Fox. The motion was seconded by</p>

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	<p data-bbox="573 1247 730 1425">Dr. Harold Fox, Committee member, MHA</p>	<p data-bbox="800 224 1354 329">In discussion, Committee members reviewed the September 3, 2021, open session meeting minutes.</p> <p data-bbox="800 370 1346 475">In discussion, Committee member reviewed the revised August 20, 2021, open session meeting minutes.</p> <p data-bbox="800 516 1419 695">Ms. Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM, (Committee, Co-Chair) with additional suggested changes to edit the August 20, 2021 open session meeting minutes document (pgs. 4, 5, and 6).</p> <p data-bbox="800 1247 1419 1425">Dr. Fox offered a suggestion that the minutes be read by each Committee member prior to the Committee meetings to allow the Committee members time for discussion of the minutes and to permit</p>	<p data-bbox="1446 224 1856 475">Karen Webster. There was one abstention by Elizabeth Reiner. There were none opposed. The motion carried to accept and approve the September 3, 2021, open session minutes.</p> <p data-bbox="1446 516 1885 1206">A motion was made by Elizabeth Reiner to accept and approve the August 20, 2021, open session meeting minutes, with recommended changes requested by Ms. Reiner to the August 20, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Jan Kriebs. There were two abstentions, Dr. Kai Parker and Dr. Harold Fox. There were none opposed. The motion carried to accept and approve the August 20, 2021 open session minutes with the recommended changes made to the August 20, 2021 open session minutes as discussed.</p> <p data-bbox="1446 1247 1885 1425">The Committee members agreed to the suggestion made by Dr. Fox for Committee members to review the minutes prior to the</p>

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<p><b>3. Review of Memorandum to the Board and preparation of the accompanying study report with recommendations to be presented by a Committee member on October 27, 2021.</b></p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, Board staff member</p> <p>Michael Conti, AAG, Board Counsel</p>	<p>best use of the Committee member's time and to enhance efficiency at each meeting.</p> <p>The Committee members were provided with a draft Memorandum to the Board document to add the Committee's report and recommendations, pursuant to a written request from delegates of the Maryland General Assembly, to conduct a study, as subject matter experts, and having obtained input from interested stakeholders, to provide the results of the study and the recommendations from the Committee to be presented by a Committee member to the Board at its September 22, 2021 open session Board meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Conti asked if the Committee decided how the report will be presented and the Committee members began their discussion of the draft Memorandum to the Board items, beginning with who will be presenting the information to the Board on October 27, 2021, at the open session Board meeting.</p> <p>The Committee members discussed who would be able to be available to present the findings of the study and provide the report and recommendations of the Committee to the Board at the October 27, 2021, open</p>	<p>scheduled meeting. Monica Mentzer will send out the minutes a week before the Committee meetings are held.</p> <p>The Committee members provided input to changes to the draft document Memo to the Board. Monica Mentzer will make the changes to the document, as discussed by the Committee members, and will update the document for further review at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>The Committee members who agreed to be available to present the Memorandum to the Board on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at the</p>

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	<p>Caitlyn McDonough, AIMM, and the Maryland Families for Safe Birth</p> <p>Paige Barocca, LDEM, AIMM President</p> <p>Jan Kriebs, CNM, Committee member</p>	<p>session Board meeting, beginning at 9:00 A.M.</p> <p>The four key areas of the study are to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The provisions of the HB 1032 from the 2021 Legislative Session</li> <li>-Scope of practice for CPMs permitted to provide vaginal birth after Cesarean delivery ("VBAC") services in other states</li> <li>-Potential risks associated with LDEMs providing VBAC services in an out-of-institution setting; and</li> <li>-The expansion of the scope of practice of Maryland LDEMs to include VBAC</li> </ul> <p>Ms. McDonough and Ms. Barocca provided information regarding the HB 1032, sponsored by Delegate Bonnie Cullison, that did not pass in the 2021 Legislative Session, but was referred for an Interim Study to the Maryland Board of Nursing, Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee for additional information regarding the recommendation by the Committee to expand the scope of practice of LDEMs to include providing for VBAC to birthers meeting certain criteria.</p> <p>Ms. Kriebs noted that [when the law was passed to initially license direct-entry midwives in Maryland] the law inappropriately restricts practice and takes</p>	<p>Board's open session meeting beginning at 9:00 AM, included Ms. Jessica Watkins, Dr. Kai Parker, Elizabeth Reiner, and Karen Webster. Ms. Watkins requested that an LDEM Committee member be available to the Board members at October 27, 2021, open session Board meeting to address any questions regarding the report and recommendations from the study.</p>

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	<p>Karen Webster, LDEM, Committee member</p> <p>Caitlin McDonough, AIMM, and Maryland Families for Safe Birth</p> <p>Jennifer Witten, Vice President, Government Policy, Maryland</p>	<p>away from the governing board to make changes in the scope of practice without having to return to the legislature [to change the law]. Ms. Kriebs added that her original concert was that the legislature needs to understand why we are bringing it to the legislature.</p> <p>Ms. Webster clarified that ongoing conversations would be needed and that this was part of the original law, with the intent that we would look to expand the scope of practice of licensed direct-entry midwives (“LDEMs”) in Maryland.</p> <p>Ms. McDonough will provide the uncodified language, from the 2015 Legislative Session, requiring the Committee to include their recommendations in the annual report to the legislature to Monica Mentzer in an email following today’s meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Witten noted that the Maryland Hospital Association participated in providing a written statement addressed to the Committee Chair, Co-Chair, Board of Nursing Executive Director, and Board of Nursing President on September 3, 2021.</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer to add the specific information provided by Ms. McDonough to the Memorandum to the Board to assist the current Board members with an understanding of the background for annual recommendations from the Committee to the Board.</p> <p>The Committee members will include a copy of the statement documents received from stakeholders (including both statements in opposition and in support) with the report</p>

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	<p>Hospital Association</p> <p>Dr. Kai Parker, LDEM, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Jan Kriebs, CNM, Committee member</p> <p>Dr. Kai Parker, LDEM, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Jane Krienke, Maryland Hospital Association</p>	<p>In discussion, the Committee reviewed the information in the Memo to the Board offering to provide an appendix with a summary of four years of the data from the FY '2017 through FY '2020 that was prepared by Ms. Jan Kriebs.</p> <p>The Committee believes that looking at the trends in the available data from the Board to the legislature (including outcomes) for four years will be able to demonstrate the LDEMs are providing for safe practice and care at home.</p> <p>The Committee discussed and agreed that it was important to include on the Memo to the Board the information regarding the "Direct-Entry Midwife – Code of Ethics" Code of Maryland Regulations (10.44.02), drafted by the Committee, approved by the Board, and submitted to the Maryland Department of Health Secretary, as proposed regulation changes. The regulations were signed by the Governor [FY '2020].</p> <p>Ms. Krienke commented that there you can have VBACs in hospital settings, and that there is data from the Maryland Health Care Commission, regarding the successful</p>	<p>and recommendations from this study.</p> <p>A motion was made by Karen Webster to include the data review in an appendix to the Memorandum to the Board. The motion was seconded by Jessica Watkins. There was one abstention by Dr. Fox. There were none opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>Ms. Krienke agreed to forward the link to the data on hospital VBACs available from the Maryland Health Care</p>

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	<p>Dr. Harold Fox, Committee member</p> <p>Caitlyn McDonough, AIMM, Maryland Families for Safe Birth</p> <p>Michael Conti, AAG, Board Counsel</p> <p>Karen Webster, LDEM, Committee member</p>	<p>VBACs that occur in the in-patient hospital setting.</p> <p>Dr. Fox noted there is additional information and Maryland data on the Health Moms and Babies website by jurisdiction for the years from 2015-2018.</p> <p>Ms. McDonough asked if policy related issues discussed by this Committee are an open session item or does it need to be done in closed session?</p> <p>Mr. Michael Conti responded to Ms. McDonough question that the drafting of a document does not need to be done in open session; the Committee members can draft a report and bring the final recommendations to the Committee open session meeting for a vote to accept the report and recommendations.</p> <p>Ms. Karen Webster provided the Committee with an up to date list (2021) list of the other states that license DEMs and the status of their laws and regulations regarding VBACs, noting that Washington D.C., has not yet written their regulations.</p>	<p>Commission (MHCC) to Monica Mentzer to share with the Committee members at their next meeting.</p>



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<p><b>4. Review of renewal applications received to the Board with documentation of requirements for 20 CEUs.</b></p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Chairperson</p>	<p>Ms. Webster provided the Committee with a copy of a document that the AIMM members wrote for the Committee members to review and discuss the content.</p> <p>Ms. Jan Kriebs suggested to remove statistically in the third paragraph of the document and that a resource for the data regarding VBACs be included.</p>	
	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Co-Chairperson, believes that additional time will be necessary for the Committee members to finalize their report with recommendations and that an additional Committee meeting will need to be scheduled for October 8, 2021, beginning at 10:00 AM. The Committee members discussed who would be available to attend an October 8, 2021, Committee meeting to ensure the requirement for a quorum would be met.</p>	
	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, LDEM, Committee Chairperson</p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker requested that the Committee's review of the 2021 DEM Licensure Renewal Applications for compliance with the renewal CEU requirements be tabled until the next Committee meeting.</p>	
	<p>Monica Mentzer, Board Staff</p>	<p>Ms. Jessica Watkins, and Ms. Jan Kriebs reported to the Committee that they had to leave the meeting. The remaining Committee members present (4)</p>	

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<p><b>5. Review of An Application for Initial Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery</b></p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, Board Staff</p>	<p>maintained a quorum. Ms. Watkins stated she would try to rejoin the Committee meeting, if able to do so.</p> <p>The Committee members were provided with a copy of the Application for Initial Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery received to the Board from applicant: Christine Kunkel for review and discussion as to whether or not the applicant meets the minimum criteria for initial licensure as a direct-entry midwife in Maryland utilizing the Checklist for an Initial DEM Application Review for Approval. The official results of the Criminal History Record Check to the Background Review Department are pending.</p>	<p>A motion was made by Elizabeth Reiner to recommend to the Board to approve the application for initial licensure to practice direct-entry midwifery for applicant Christine Kunkel pending the official report of a negative Criminal History Record Check received to the Background Review Department. The motion was seconded by Dr. Fox. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>6. Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Dr. Kai Parker, Committee Chairperson</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, Board Staff</p>	<p>The Committee adjourned the October 1, 2021 meeting with plans to meet again on October 8, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Monica Mentzer will prepare the agenda for the October 8, 2021 meeting and submit a request for approval to obtain and to post the call-in phone number/access code and Webex information on the Board's website.</p>	<p>At 12:52 p.m. a.m. a motion was made by Jessica Watkins, to close the open session meeting. The motion was seconded by Karen Webster. The motion to adjourn the open session meeting carried; there were none opposed and no abstentions.</p>