

MINUTES

AUCKLAND HOME BIRTH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE SOUTH PACIFIC COLLEGE, ELLERSLIE, ON APRIL 22, 1990

PRESENT: Brenda Hinton, Sally Morrison, Marjet Pot, Glenda Southey, Nicky Marchese, Lesley Anderson, Kate Jaunay, Joan Donley, Jose Kakebeeka, Sarah Macleod, Linda McKay, Joan Eastwood, Lilian Dunn, Maree Parr, Sonia Hart, Heather Waugh, Mary Hammonds, Joan Skinner, Claire Chambers. C Carolyn Young

APOLOGIES: Joyce Cowan, Jacqui Ralph, Sue Frost, Kim Conway, Carolyn Young, Jenny Woodley.

REPORTS:SECRETARIAL:

Despite the small number of committed members we produced many new items for sale or display, including key rings, badges, t-shirts (from infant to adult sizes), posters, letterhead, recycling labels, & info pamphlets. The most important work has been the total revision of the Guide to Healthy Pregnancy and Childbirth, for sale at \$12, or complementary following registration for a birth.

New books for support group libraries; there are now 7 local support groups providing antenatal classes or coffee mornings throughout Auckland.

We held a seminar, "Choices in Childbirth" during Home Birth Week, with panellists from St. Helens, National Womens, a DMW, the head of the Maternity Services Task Force, and spokesperson from AHBA.

The Domiciliary Midwives Standards Review Committee was set up, and we are drafting a questionnaire for consumers to assess client satisfaction. Regular Doctor/midwives meetings continue.

We received a grant from the McKenzie Foundation to be used to replace the old Home Birth Video. We sent in submissions to the Maternity Services Task Force, & the Select Committee on the Nurses Amendment Bill.

moved: Linda, seconded: Kate.

TREASURERS:

Report incomplete, will need auditing. unable to be passed.

MIDWIVES:

There are currently 16 midwives active. They continue to have meetings with the PPHN, now called Nurse Managers. Report would like to move a vote of thanks from this AGM to Carol Petersen, who has been so supportive to the DMW's.

Takapuna PPHN, Freda Moffat was made redundant, so North Shore midwives are now under supervision of Acting Mgr of Maternity Svc. Midwives oppose this, as neither the DMW's nor the DM Society Inc, were consulted. Also fears for Centralisation weakening the primary health care aims of AHB's. Letters have been written to N. Harbour Public Health Office mgr, Rod Perkins, copies to Helen Clark, etc.

Lilian Dunn, who held a contract in South Ak several years ago has been used to do 28 days orientation in a hospital in order to renew her contract as a DMW, despite her own two home births, etc. This will be discussed at Conference.

Quarterly meetings with doctors no longer so relaxed as pre-Nurses Amendment Bill. Awaiting outcome of the Amendment before proceeding with a contract with AAHB to conduct DOMINO births, etc.

DMSRC reviewed 12 DMW's; AHBA is preparing a guideline to standardise reports presented by midwives. Seeking to get AAHB to provide remuneration to consumers who sit on such committees. 6 consumers have been selected so 4 are available for each meeting. Suggestion was made at Select committee hearings that not all consumers should be Home birth. Will debate this at Conference.

MIDWIVES REPORT moved: Joan, seconded: Sarah.

NEWSLETTER:

Difficulties in staffing the collective, plus time constraints on the current editor have meant that there have only been 3 1/2 newsletters this year. It is proposed that there be only 3 newsletters per year, which will make increase in size of each one possible.

moved: Brenda, seconded: Joan.

SUPPORT GROUPS:

WEST AUCKLAND now has 3 women facilitating classes 4 times a year, based at Liz Gilbert-Grant's home in Titirangi; they are well-attended. No coffee mornings at present, there seems to be no call for them. They do have periodic get-togethers of people from the classes.

EAST AUCKLAND now has two separate coffee groups: Howick/Pakuranga (east of the Tamaki river) and Glen Innes/Mt. Wellington (west of the river), with 10-20 women attending each one. No antenatal classes at present, but will try to have a Couples Evening once a term to let people hear about HB and meet a midwife casually.

FRANKLIN now has 2 DMWs which will help to spread the load. There has been some misunderstanding of the registration/subscription forms & fees but that is being clarified. Parents Centre is starting up in the area, which may draw people away from HB as support group. Still not many dr.s willing to do HB.

SOUTH AUCKLAND has just completed a series of 4 meetings, fairly well attended. Lil Durn also leads Active Birth classes. They had a meeting on postnatal depression with a psychiatrist and psych nurse from Middlemore, with 15 people coming (a good turnout). Telephone tree is working well.

CENTRAL AUCKLAND has just had another series of Antenatal classes, which were very difficult to organise, with many phone calls by Claire Chambers to inform clients. Suggestion made to remind all Midwives to send in a list of their bookings. This is still a large job for someone to ring clients, so decision made to make it the client be responsible for arranging to book the classes. A schedule of forthcoming classes can be put into the purple booklet, handed to client by the midwife. Midwife must also remind clients to pay their registration promptly and register for classes ASAP.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 1) Spokesperson - no opposition to Brenda continuing.
- 2) Secretaries remain Linda & Kate
- 3) Treasurer - Sarah would like to resign before the birth of her baby in August. Advert in Newsletter regarding this.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1) There is a proposal to increase the FEE for registration to \$50. Objection from Heather, saying clients will balk at that. Proposal then amended to increase fee to \$50, but in case of hardship clients will be asked to pay what they can afford.

moved: Marjet, seconded: Kate.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE to remain the same: \$10, \$15, \$25.

moved: Kate, seconded: Sarah.

- 2) NEED FOR FUNDING CHANGES FOLLOWING NURSES AMENDMENT ACT: Report from Carolyn Young: At present Midwives are classed as Labour Attendants, receiving \$225 for a 6-hour labour and \$37.50 per hour thereafter. They get \$16 for each of the 3 antenatal and 12 postnatal visits. If they are paid the same hourly rate for ante- and postnatal care as for births, the ante- and postnatal visits should last 25.6 minutes apiece. All clerical work, telephone counselling, lab work etc. is

unpaid. Initial "booking" visit is often over an hour, and the first few postnatal visits are often an hour or more too.

In contrast, the GP receives \$268 for 1 1/2 at a birth, and \$69 per half-hour thereafter, and can claim an increased allowance for the initial "booking" visit. 21

When the Amendment is passed, midwives should claim the birth fee, and the GP's should negotiate a "consultant's" fee. It is unfair for midwives, in effect, to be docked of pay because of the presence of a GP, while a hospital midwife, in attendance at a birth receives her usual pay, whether a GP has entered the room or not. 90-57-21

endorsed by A.G.M. to be discussed at Conference.

- 3) It has been proposed that there be 2 non-Home birth consumers on the Domiciliary Midwives Standards Review Committee, to avoid the criticism of it being too "in-house", and not objective enough. Discussion revealed that non-Home birth consumers have only hospital standards to judge by, so would not be qualified to assess a DMW's performance truly.

proposal rejected by A.G.M.

- 4) Diane McAllister is preparing a draft for a pilot scheme for Home help for Home birth & Early Discharge families, possibly to be funded by a COGGS grant. For information or to help her on this draft, write to Diane McAllister, 2/22 Millais Street, Grey Lynn, Ph. 786-113.
- i) Home birth Statistics: Alex Gillanders is no longer able to prepare the stats free of charge. He estimates it will cost \$2 per form; it takes 2-4 hours per week to process 1000 births. Proposal to increase registration fee to cover this. Difficulty is that not all home births listed by midwives on stats forms are from registered parents, so those people are being subsidised by the others. Possibility of checking birth notices in newsletter with the registration list and sending a bill. Midwives can also remind clients of the need to pay up. No additional charge above the \$50 necessary, and if it is accepted at Conference Alex can be paid. Perinatal database is in the process of being sorted out, so this situation with AHBA having separate stats may not last beyond 1991.

Non-Agenda items:

Announcements from Auckland Womens Health Council:

MEETING 6 June on effects of smoking. At Epsom Teacher's College.

MEETING on Cervical Cancer Enquiry, Two Years On. at Akaranga campus, North Shore.

Meeting closed 4:20 p.m.

AUCKLAND HOME BIRTH ASSOCIATION INC

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1990

| <u>RECEIPTS</u> | | <u>PAYMENTS</u> | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>1989</u> | <u>1989</u> | <u>1990</u> | |
| Registrations and Subs | 11,216 | 11,928.50 | Newsletters - Print & Post | 8119.82 |
| Donations | 40 | 534.50 | Postage & Stationery | 2022.25 |
| National Newsletter Sales | 1,139 | --- | Photocopying | 1161.58 |
| Fund Raising | 1,119 | 7,337.44 | Support & Antenatal Exp | 1474.58 |
| Books & Video Sales | 3,595 | 486.70 | Fund Raising Exp | 6332.14 |
| Photocopying Recoveries | 573 | 1,006.00 | Printing Books etc. | 2222.68 |
| T-Shirt Sales | --- | 875.90 | Meetings & Conference | 765.99 |
| Sundry Receipts | 35 | 335.00 | Advertising & Publicity | 494.15 |
| Interest | 366 | 607.80 | Subscriptions & Books | 634.35 |
| Excess Expenditure over income | --- | 1,818.85 | Donations | 20.00 |
| | | | Sundry Payments Bank Fees Etc | 1683.15 |
| | | | Excess income over expenditure | ---- |
| | <u>18,083</u> | <u>24,930.69</u> | | <u>24930.69</u> |

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1990

| <u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u> | <u>1989</u> | <u>CURRENT ASSETS</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Balance | 1.4.89 | 8,508.83 |
| Less Exc Exp | | |
| Over Income | 1,818.85 | |
| | | <u>6,689.98</u> |
| <u>Special Funds</u> | | |
| Midwives Negotiating Fund | 43.76 | |
| | | <u>6,733.74</u> |
| | | Bank |
| | | 6,679.21 |
| | | <u>6,679.21</u> |

DIFFERENCE \$54.53

THIS IS NOT A FINAL BALANCE SHEET AS IT IS NOT BALANCED, SOME TOTALS WILL CHANGE.