



**Virginia Doula Task Force  
September 2, 2021  
10:00am-12:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes-FINAL**

**1. Call to order – Consuelo Staton, Emily Yeatts-Co-moderator, Kimani Burney-Scribe, VDH Doula Regulations team**

- Robin Buskey- will have a conversation regarding protocol for the task force
- Jennifer Macdonald

**2. Roll call**

Present

- Lisa Brown- Birth Sisters of Charlottesville
- Kayley Mayhew- Virginia Family Doulas
- Kenda Sutton-EI- Birth in Color RVA
- Alison Roepke- Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association
- Delegate Aird
- Dr. Donald Dudley- OB/GYN
- Stephanie Spencer- Urban Baby Beginnings
- Tammi McKinley- Virginia Midwives Alliance
- Lauren Elise Barnes- Motherhood Collective
- Adrienne Fegans (filling in for Cheryl Roberts)- DMAS

Not Present

- Kathy Stewart- ABP Doula Training Center
- Dr. Frances Casey- OB/GYN
- Tara Daystar- Roanoke Doula Collective, Ancient Roots Midwifery & Doula Care LLC
- Lora Henderson- Doula Consumer
- Isabel Eljaiek- Doula Consumer
- Ericka Schmale- Doula Consumer

**3. Task Force Protocol**

Robin Buskey covered the following four points pertaining updates or clarification regarding public meetings:

- Pursuant to [Chapter 1, Enactment 17](#) of the 2021 Special Session II, the Virginia Doula Task Force can continue to meet by electronic means (completely virtual) provided that no votes will be taken and no formal recommendations made. Otherwise, in order to conduct votes or make recommendations, a quorum of the public body must be physically assembled at one primary or central meeting location.

- To remain in compliance with requirements for conducting public meetings, which consist of communication between three or more members, VDH appointed Jennifer Macdonald as the ex officio member to the Virginia Doula Task Force to replace Consuelo Staton. Consuelo will continue to serve as lead staff to the Task Force.
  - The bylaws will be revised to reflect a FOIA update regarding the maximum number of requests to meet by electronic means for personal reasons by any one member.
  - Clarification was provided regarding a previous question about members designating nonmembers to attend task force meetings. Citizen members and legislative branch representatives can send someone to observe and contribute to the discussion; however, they cannot vote for members and their attendance does not count toward the quorum.
  - *All communication regarding task force business should continue to flow to and through Consuelo Staton.*
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- Bylaws will need to be updated to reflect the section regarding electronic meetings. We will make the change and present the bylaws at the next meeting.
  - Follow up to previous question regarding whether or not task force members can designate individuals to represent themselves in meetings in lieu of their absence.
    - Temps cannot vote for members and their attendance cannot count towards the quorum.
4. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**
- Postponed until there is a physical meeting.
5. **Update of Regulations**
- Still with the Health Commissioner for review and approval. Regulation will receive informal approval of the Doula Regs. on August 19<sup>th</sup> via the Office of Attorney General.
  - Regulation will be submitted to the registrar this week in accord with original proposed timeline.
6. **Open issues- Topic for discussion- Kenda Sutton-EI- Chair, Stephanie Spencer-Co-Chair**
- A general overview of Virginia Certification Board (VCB)'s certification process- Mary Jo Mather, Executive Director- Virginia Certification Board
    - Questions, Answers, comments and Summary of discussion*
    - VCB is a VA private non-profit organization and have existed for 33 years
      - At beginning only offered 1 credential- certified addiction counselor
    - Board is currently 11 individuals who each have one of the credentials offered
    - Meet 3-4 times/ year
    - Certifications:
      - Certified addiction counselor

- Prevention specialist certification
    - Clinical supervisor
    - Certified peer recovery specialist certification
    - Community health worker certification
  - All certifications considered international and reciprocal
    - VCB belongs to international organization called IC&RC certification board
  - Should VCB offer a doula certification on Task Force behalf, it'd be a homegrown credential, not an adopted credential developed by an international org where the certification is used around the world
  - 4 full time staff members and 1 part time person
  - Use subject matter experts when creating a new certification
  - **QUESTION:** When someone is certified, are you able to go into the system to look to confirm certification and other information?
    - Yes. There is a credential search function and can search by name.
    - Name, certification, date the certification is issued, active/lapsed/expired- 1 year beyond recertification (every 2 years)
- Strategies for collecting input for doulas/stakeholders who are not part of the task force
  - Idea of creating a Facebook group
  - Tool where doulas/stakeholders across the state can put their information
  - One pager navigation website where doulas could put their information and have it collected
    - Google Form would likely be best option
    - VDH team will look into this.
  - The idea of bringing more guest speakers on board to present on what they are doing in Virginia
  - VHHA Comms Team
  - Another suggestion: a google voice number to collect voicemails for those who are not on social media and cannot reach a Facebook group
- Meeting in person
  - Still in discussion stages on this- haven't designated a place and time
    - Local libraries, and other sites to take into consideration

**7. Public Comment Period – 2 minute maximum time per public commenter**

- None.

**8. Adjournment** Consuelo Staton

- **Next Meeting: Tuesday Sept 28, 2021. 10-noon**