The Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee held its regular meeting in The RSA Tower, Terrace Ball Room 2 at the Capital City Club in Montgomery, Alabama. The following were in attendance:

**Attendees:**

- Izza Afgan
- Kathryn Allen
- Janet Benefield
- Nancy Bishop
- Kathy Boswell
- Kelley Bownes
- Kimberly Braxton Lloyd
- Margaret Findlay
- Debra Hodges
- Juquaila Madkin
- Angela Martin
- Janet McQueen
- Thomas Miller
- Janice Nelson
- Kathleen Obringer
- Jessica Hardy
- Dechelle Merritt
- Nan Priest
- Beth Taylor
- Jacklyn Thomas
- Sue Turner
- Tracy Welsh
- Michele Jones
- Sabra Agee
- Shondreka Johnson
- Arrol Sheehan
- Leslie Posey
- Olivia Kioni
- Evelyn Crayton
- Melissa McNeil
- Carol Kelley Nesbitt
- Susan Fillipeli
- Julia Sosa

Sign in sheet is attached.

**Welcome/Call to Order**

Jessica Hardy, Director, Office of Women’s Health, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. She announced that Kimberly Braxton Lloyd, Chairman, Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee, was enroute to Montgomery and would chair the meeting upon her arrival. Ms. Hardy welcomed the committee members and recognized guests that were in attendance. Committee members introduced themselves and identified the agencies that they represented.

Michele Jones, Director, ADPH Bureau of Professional and Support Services, greeted the Committee members and visitors. She thanked the Committee for their work in promoting women’s health in Alabama.

**Minutes Review & Approval**

Jessica Hardy, Director, Office of Women’s Health, directed the Committee members to review the September 11, 2009 minutes. A motion was made to approve the September 11, 2009 minutes and the minutes were unanimously approved with the following editorial correction: 2010 Women’s Health Update, The St. Vincent’s Bruno Conference Center or Samford University is the are the possible locations for the 2010 Women’s Health Update.

**OWH Activities**

**OWH Publication**

Debra Hodges, Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee, presented a report on the progress of the OWH Publication. The publication is in the final editing stage and is due for completion during the week of December 14, 2009. The publication will be available as a CD-Rom and as a PowerPoint file that can be downloaded from the OWH website. The next phase of the project is the development of the speaker’s notes. The goal is to have this second phase completed by the next OWH Steering Committee meeting on March 12, 2010.
2010 5K and 1 Mile Walk

Juaquala Madkin, Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee, presented a report from the 5K Workgroup on the planning of this annual event. Ms. Madkin directed the group to the report of the conference call held on November 19, 2009 that was available as a handout located in their folders. The date has been confirmed for Saturday, April 24, 2010. The location will either be Underwood Park or Linn Park in Birmingham. There is a possibility that OWH can partner with the Arts Festival that is already scheduled at Linn Park on April 24. The City of Birmingham still needs to respond to this request. Also, a request has been made for the City of Birmingham to waive the fees for the use of either Underwood Park or Linn Park. If the fees are not waived, the cost would be $3500 for Underwood Park and $6000 for Linn Park. Ms. Madkin will continue to work with the city officials to negotiate a site that is both appropriate and affordable.

2010 Women’s Health Update

Margaret Findlay, Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee, presented a report from the OWH Women’s Health Update Workgroup conference call held on December 1, 2009. Dr. Findlay directed the group to the handout located in their folders. The date and location of this continuing education offering are Saturday, October 16, 2010 at the Bruno Conference Center at St. Vincent’s Birmingham Hospital. Dr. Findlay visited the Bruno Conference Center and spoke with Audrey White, Supervisor for Education Resources. The Center has a large auditorium with table & chair seating for 192 people. There is space at back of auditorium for Silent Auction set-up. The lobby area will be available for registration table, vendors, and poster displays. The kitchen area may be available for use pending permission from Morrison’s Food Services. Parking facilities will allow for easy access to the Conference Center. The goal is to have 150-200 participants from nursing, pharmacy, dietetics, and social work.

The theme of the Update is Women’s Health Across the Lifespan. A keynote address is planned as the opening session and will be followed by four additional sessions. The specific topics for each session is to be determined, but will be aimed at addressing health issues of various age groups—adolescents, young adult, middle-age adult, and senior adult. The Workgroup decided to invite Representative Artur Davis to serve as the keynote speaker to discuss the impact of health care reform (or lack of) on women’s health in Alabama. Other speakers will be invited for the remaining sessions and will be asked to prepare a presentation that has an interdisciplinary perspective. Plans are underway for securing continuing education credit, conducting the silent auction, securing vendors, and for publicity.

The Workgroup will conduct its next conference call in February 2010. Any other Steering Committee members are welcome to participate. Each member of the Steering Committee is asked to contribute one item for the silent auction. The following agencies were added to the publicity list: Troy University, University of South Alabama, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

OWH Car Tag

Jessica Hardy, Director, Office of Women’s Health, stated that there has been no change in status since the report provided at the September 11, 2009 meeting. The goal is to proceed with the re-application process and partner with the 9th District AME Church of Alabama. Additional information should be available at the next OWH Steering Committee meeting on March 12, 2010.

Research Results Presentation

A report was presented by Susan Fillippeli, Ph.D., who was representing the Alabama Women’s Commission. Dr. Fillippeli informed the group that the Alabama Women’s Commission is charged with the conduct of research to improve the lives of women in Alabama and to report findings to the Alabama State Legislature. The web address is http://www.alwomenscommission.com.
Denise Davis-Maye, Ph.D., LCSW, PIP and Carole Zugazaga, Ph.D., faculty members from Auburn University presented the results of their study on Issues of Women with Children under One Year of Age. The most important finding was postpartum depression. Specifically, strategies are needed to recognize and treat postpartum depression including a screening tool for physicians to use. Questions and answers followed. There will be a joint meeting of the Alabama Women’s Commission and the Office of Women’s Health on January 21, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. The Office of Women’s Health is looking forward to working with the Alabama Women’s Commission in the coming year to provide community and professional education regarding recognition and early treatment of postpartum depression.

Work Groups/Roundtable Discussion

The work groups/roundtable discussion activity was tabled due to time constraints. Each group will continue to work through conference calls between now and the next Steering Committee meeting on March 12, 2010.

2010 OWH Chair

Kimberly Braxton Lloyd, Chairman, Office of Women’s Health Steering Committee, announced that Nan Priest had agreed to serve as the new Chairman of the Steering Committee, and has been appointed to serve in this capacity by Dr. Williamson, State Health Officer. Sue Turner nominated Margaret Findlay to serve as the Vice Chairman. Linda Roussel seconded the nomination and Dr. Findlay was elected by a unanimous vote of the membership.

In “passing the gavel”, Kimberly Braxton Lloyd expressed her appreciation to the members for their contributions during her period of leadership. Members thanked Dr. Braxton-Lloyd for her excellent leadership over the past four years. The gavel was officially passed to Nan Priest.

Announcement

The Alabama Cooperative Extension Program will hold a conference on April 20-21, 2010 entitled Health Disparities in Women with a focus on obesity and postpartum depression.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The Luncheon and Recognition Program followed in the Montgomery Room at the RSA Tower.

Next Meeting:
March 12, 2010

Minutes Submitted by Dechelle Merritt
OWH Administrative Assistant

Kimberly Braxton Lloyd
Committee Chair (outgoing)

Nan Priest
Committee Chair (incoming)