

**General Membership Meeting
May 5, 2016**

9:37 a.m. – 10:02 a.m.

Southcoast Center for Women's Health, 300 B Faunce Corner Road, North Dartmouth, MA

Members present (10): Barbara Acksen, Arthur Briggs, Darlene Dymysz, Jay Kenney, Cristal Medeiros, Kerry Mello, Claudia Soares, Kathy Spear, Amy Sylvia, and Gloria Villalobo. *If your name does not appear on this list and you attended the meeting, please contact gnballies@gmail.com.*

Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. by Chair, Barbara Acksen.

Business meeting

Meeting minutes – approval

April 7, 2016 – Kerry Mello moved to approve the report, Amy Sylvia seconded, with no discussion all members present approved the March minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Because the Treasurer had a schedule conflict, the report was tabled until the next meeting.

Standing Committee reports

Health Access – Barbara Acksen reported that Gail Brennan will no longer be able to continue as co-chair of the Health Access Committee because she has a new position at her place of employment. She said that Darlene Dymysz will serve as the new co-chair moving forward.

As the committee's new co-chair, Darlene Dymysz reported that four people are nearly finished with their training in the mother-woman group model. She said the final training will take place on Friday, May 6th. After the completion of their training, these women will now be able to train other people and expand their outreach to other groups in the community.

Health Equity – Kerry Mello reported that the Capacity Building Cancer Disparities group is in the final months of the grant. She anticipates the group's work will be able to go on afterward. She said their agenda was ambitious and the community health workers have done an outstanding job distributing FIT kits for colorectal cancer screening and getting them back. She noted that some community health workers have seen a 100 percent return rate. Furthermore, she said the YWCA did a really large outreach to Hispanic women with their distribution of the kits and an educational program. She said

they are working on a video to the Portuguese community because that's lacking in the Greater New Bedford area. She hopes to have Ben Gilbarg, co-founder of 3rd Eye Unlimited, involved in some way.

Other Business

Update on youth concerns discussion

While there was no formal discussion on this topic, Barbara Acksen noted that co-chairs of this committee, Deirdre Healy and Maria Mendes, are planning a larger discussion on youth concerns by bringing new people to the table in the upcoming months.

Member Announcements

Members are always welcome to provide handouts for others and to share upcoming events.

- Arthur Briggs noted that Mercy Meals and More is having a Scallop Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, May 14 at 7 p.m. at their facility across the street from Pilgrim UCC Church Home, located at 634 Purchase Street in New Bedford. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children six and under.
- Cristal Medeiros noted that Community Nurse Home Care is having a Centennial Celebration to benefit Community's Fund for the Future on Friday, May 20, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Kittansett Club, located at 11 Point Road in Marion. For more information, visit www.communitynurse.com. Purchases can be made through the Event page on this website.
- Darlene Dymza noted that the Healthy Access Committee will now be meeting on the second Thursday of the month. Their next meeting is on Thursday, May 12th at 9:30 a.m. at the Kennedy-Donovan Center.
- Claudia Soares noted that the Family Resource and Development Center is moving to the Santander Bank building, located at 128 Union Street in New Bedford, by June 30, 2016.

Adjournment

Kerry Mello moved to adjourn the meeting, Arthur Briggs seconded, with no discussion all members present approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on June 2, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m. at Southcoast Center for Women's Health, located at 300 B Faunce Corner Road in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts.