

# Connecticut Commission on Health Equity

## Executive Committee

**Chairperson**  
Dr. Marie Spivey  
**Vice-Chairperson**  
Dr. Catherine Medina  
**Secretary**  
Kristen Noelle Hatcher  
**Treasurer**  
Arvind Shaw  
**Executive Director**  
Dr. Raja Staggers-Hakim



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### Minutes to the January, 17 2012 Meeting Legislative Office Building, Rm. 1B

**Present:** Glenn Cassis, Sharon Mierzwa, Catherine Medina, Marie Spivey, Arvind Shaw, Colleen Gallagher, Elizabeth Krause, Doreen McGrath, Natasha Pierre, Raja Staggers-Hakim, Kristen Noelle Hatcher, Marja Hurley, Gregory Stanton, Sylvia Gafford-Alexander, James Gatling, Cathy Graves, Werner Oyanadel, James Gatling, Stephanie Knutson

**Call-in:** Kelson Ettienne-Modeste, Stephanie Paulmeno, Ann Ferris

**Absent:** Kenneth Alleyne, James Rawlings, Michael Williams, Tory Westbrook, Kelson Ettienne-Modeste, Marie Kirkley-Bey, Meg Hooper

#### 1. Nominations Committee Report

Discussion began with the reference to bylaws on voting. Questions were raised about the voting rights of those who are not present in meeting. Concerns include voting confidentiality and suggestions included absentee ballots. It was decided that voting would be postponed. A motion was passed to move the voting and for the nominations committee to receive votes electronically. Further, a special meeting would be held in February to hear from the elected officers. The nominations committee will send ballots out through email and have a vote with statements attached to inform voters about nominees. Votes will have deadlines, but all commissioners will have access to vote.

#### 2. Policy Committee report

Guidelines for meeting with state agencies to perform assessment and dialogue were discussed with the goal of developing health equity plans via legislation. Expectations for agencies to develop a health equity policy were also discussed. A letter by Dr. Stagers that will be sent out to state agencies and should include the common goal of Health Equity and the definition of the priorities of the state. Recipients will include major organizations and other individuals in the state that may support the mission of CHE. The committee also identified 6 areas of Health as benchmark for progress and goals which can be referred to in the Annual Report.

**3. Public Voice Committee**

Public Forums will be planned and implemented as a medium to get information from the public. In addition, the committee plans to use Public Forums to reach rural & urban areas. Topics for the next meeting will include identifying frameworks that place assessment tools in place to get information, for example, by using fatherhood initiatives. Further the forums will be conducted in locations where people are already meeting.

4. **Report-Health Equity Director.** Raja Stagers-Hakim would like to remind that all committees should submit a written report to supplement the minutes. Strategic planning should include action planning process, constructive to the public and engaging state agencies. There is the need to develop a work group to identify stakeholders and draft action step planning.
5. **Other Business.** Results based accountability training is required for all state agencies. The date is TBD.
6. **Adjournment.**