

Joint Meeting of the North Carolina Stroke Association &  
Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force  
Stroke Advisory Council

**MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, October 1, 2015  
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
UNC Center for School Leadership Development  
140 Friday Center Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27517

**Members:**

Arnett Coleman, David Huang, Karen McCall, Peg O'Connell, Wayne Rosamond, Charles Tegeler, Jacqueline Wynn, with Andrew Asimos and Robin Jones by phone and Cathy Thomas, Interim Executive Director.

**Partners/Guests:**

Eileen Blaha, Sherene Bitar, Nicole Burnett, Sylvia Coleman, Ron Cromartie, Jeremy Deaver, Sheila DeBastiani, Amy Fairbank, Carmelo Graffagino, Benjamin Huang, Amy Jones, Jo Malfitano, Jim Martin, Colin McDonald, Joe Murphy, Celeste Meyer, Sarah Myer, Kellie Norris, Angela Overmen, Ruth Petersen, Pat Reilly, Sharon Rhyne, Birtha Shaw, Susan Taphous, Nidu Theron, Jackie Thompson, Marie Welch, Christa Williams, Sharon Williams

**NC Stroke Association Meeting Presentation**

Karen McCall, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all.

Dr. Charles Tegeler, President of the NC Stroke Association, provided a brief history of the NC Stroke Association and its accomplishments. The North Carolina Stroke Association's mission is to reduce the incidence and impact of stroke in North Carolina through relationships and collaborations to facilitate screening, education, outcome assessments, and advocacy. The NC Stroke Association creates transportable stroke programs to address stroke prevention and education and post-stroke services.

Future activities of the NC Stroke Association will include working with hospitals to complete assessments to prepare for the "stroke capable" designation and other nationally recognized stroke care designations, strategies to access telemedicine and develop transitions of care.

**Stroke Heroes Advocating Prevention and Education (SHAPE) Award – Honoring Dr. David Huang**

Dr. William Powers, H. Houston Merritt Distinguished Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurology at UNC, provided the opening remarks for the award.

Dr. David Huang is the Director of the UNC Hospitals Stroke Center, Chief of the Division of Stroke and Vascular Neurology, Full Professor in the Department of Neurology, and the Program Director for the UNC Adult Neurology Residency Program. He was recognized for his work in being an advocate and providing leadership for stroke care in the state of North

Carolina.

The award was presented by Dr. Charles Tegeler. Dr. Huang thanked and recognized his family and members in the room from organizations such as UNC, the North Carolina Stroke Association, the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force and its Stroke Advisory Council.

### **Stroke Advisory Council Meeting Welcome and Call to Order**

Karen McCall, chair, called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from April 16, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

### **Legislative Update**

Peg O'Connell, JD provided legislative updates. The General Assembly officially adjourned earlier in the week and one of the final pieces of legislation was the appointments bills. The final appointments for the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force for the Senate and the House were approved. The Governor's appointments are generally finalized in October or early November. The updated list will be posted to the <http://startwithyourheart.com> website once all the appointments are finalized.

Cathy Thomas, Branch Manager of the Community & Clinical Connections for Prevention & Health Branch at the Division of Public Health, has been named the Interim Director for the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force and its Stroke Advisory Council.

In other legislative updates, \$2.5 million was approved for local health departments to use to improve newborn health outcomes and \$1.2 million in recurring funds for the NC Quit Line were approved. However, the increase in tax on e-cigarettes and funds for a youth tobacco media campaign were not approved.

Race to Quit, 50 groups from across North Carolina committed to increase resources for North Carolinians to quit using tobacco products, has been created. A press conference is planned for October 6, 2015.

### **Chronic Disease and Injury Section (CDI Section), NC Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Update**

Dr. Ruth Petersen provided an update from the NC Division of Public Health. She thanked Dr. Wayne Rosamond with North Carolina Stroke Care Collaborative for the joint work completing the DPH CDC grant application. Despite giving a favorable score, the CDC did not fund the initiative for this next 5 year cycle.

Cathy Thomas has been named by DPH as the Interim Executive Director for the JWTF. Cathy and Ruth are working with DPH Human Resources to post the job for a new JWTF Executive Director. We will work Karen McCall, chair, in setting up the 2016 meeting schedule and committee meetings once we hire a new executive director.

Dr. Petersen also discussed Chronic Disease and Injury, DPH projects that relate to the Stroke Advisory Council priorities and goals. The CDC continued hypertension and diabetes prevention funding line items. Unfortunately, there has been a decrease in physical activity and nutrition funding. CDI is working with pharmacists, AHEC, CCNE, Alliant, and other

partners to address these priorities.

She closed with staffing updates. Six funded positions in CDI were maintained and not cut in the final version of the state budget. Dr. Randall Williams is the new Deputy Secretary of Health Services and oversees the NC Division of Public Health and the Office of Rural Health and Community Care. Rick Brajer is the new NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary.

#### **Next Steps for NC Stroke Care Collaborative**

Dr. Wayne Rosamond provided an update on the NC Stroke Care Collaborative. The NC Stroke Care Collaborative was not granted a 5-year renewal. This was surprising since it was funded in 2004 and was the original pilot for the Coverdell Stroke Registries. The NC Office of Emergency Medical Services will keep the stroke registry data application up and running for no cost. Hospitals are still entering data. The NC Stroke Care Collaborative is seeking other funding for data networks and the continuation of the QI grant, QI committees and other technical assistance that was provided under the CDC grant. A question was asked about continuing the AHA Get with the Guidelines Data Use Agreement. Dr. Rosamond stated that if the NC Stroke Care Collaborative was still defined as a super-user it would be possible to continue that agreement. If that designation was removed, it would be cost prohibitive to continue to have access to the data.

#### **COMPASS (COMprehensive Post- Acute Stroke Services) Study**

Dr. Pamela Duncan provided an update on the COMprehensive Post-Acute Stroke Services Study and Pragmatic Trial. Her full PowerPoint presentation can be found on the <http://www.startwithyourheart.com> website under Meetings.

#### **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

Karen McCall closed the meeting at 2:10 pm and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force Meeting  
Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Room 1027/1128 (the room we usually meet in)