

Women's Health Special Interest Group, Public Health Association of Australia.

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday the 24th of September
at the State Library of New South Wales, Sydney**

1. Apologies

Emily Mauldon, Christine Morris, Catherine Mackenzie, Dorothy Broom,
Danielle Mazza, Alison Rutherford, Anna Whelan

Present

Rhonda Small, Angela Taft, Rhonda Shuker, Maxine Whittaker, Jenny Eljak,
Kerryn O'Rourke, Kirsten Black, Christina Richards, Marilyn McMurchie,
Kerrilie Rice, Meagan Morrison

2. Minutes of previous AGM held by teleconference on 4 November 2005

There was no quorum at the scheduled SIG Annual General meeting held during the Perth conference in September 2005 Conference. Instead the 2005 AGM was held by teleconference on 4 November 2005. The minutes circulated prior to the 2006 AGM were accepted without amendment.

For 2006, Rhonda Small and Angela Taft remained co-convenors of the SIG and Rhonda Shuker (Qld), Alison Rutherford (NSW), Brigid Coombs (SA), Dorothy Broom (ACT), Helen Keleher (Vic), Vicki Lambert (WA) and Deb Colville (Vic) served on the committee. These women were thanked for their contribution.

3. Presentation of Financial Report

The financial report was circulated at the meeting, showing that we had carried forward \$1556.70 from the previous financial year, that the income for the year July 2005-June 2006 had come from membership (\$800) and workshop fees (\$195.45); and the only expenditure for this year related to the costs of the workshop (\$336.92) held prior to the last PHAA Conference in Perth.

SIG funds as at 30 June 2006 stood at \$2,215.23

The financial report was accepted (moved Jenny Ejlak and seconded Rhonda Shuker).

4. Convenors' report

Angela and Rhonda reported on their actions around the agreed 2006 priority of sexual and reproductive health. They wrote two Senate submissions and attended the two Senate enquiries to support the bills around RU486 importation and transparency in pregnancy counselling services. They have collaborated on these initiatives with Australian Reproductive Health Alliance, Abortion Law Reform Association of Victoria and Reproductive Choice Australia.

They also represented the SIG in Womenspeak organisation where they supported advocacy around women's health initiatives in emergencies and Violence in Indigenous communities. The Breastfeeding and Women's Health

in Overseas Aid policies were amended for this conference. They also planned the conference workshop.

5. Election of Officers

- **Convenor:** All agreed that Angela Taft and Rhonda Small should remain as co-convenors for the coming year.
- **The following were also agreed as state representatives and executive committee members:**
 - NSW Alison Rutherford
 - Vic Danielle Mazza
 - Qld Rhonda Shuker
 - WA Judy Straton
 - ACT Christina Richards
 - Maxine Whittaker

6. Work Plan and priorities 2006/2007

It was agreed that the plan made at the Women's Health workshop prior to the AGM to develop a framework and process for a National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy would form the substantial work plan for the coming year.

It was agreed that an approach be made to the Victorian Public Health Training Scheme to see if a Public Health Fellow would be available to work with the SIG on the development of this strategy during a four month placement with the Convenors early in 2007. This would be preceded by a workplan brief to be agreed by a reference group nominated during the workshop.

It was suggested that we also seek funds from a charitable trust for the completion of the strategy if trainee support was not available.

7. Next Meeting for the newly elected Committee

It was agreed that Rhonda and Angela would arrange a teleconference for the second week of November (but not 9 or 10/11) at 4.00pm EST.

The AGM closed at 4.30pm