

Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes

10 May 2006

Location: Poplar Springs Hospital, Petersburg, Virginia

Present:

James Bowser, Regional Advocate, Office of Human Rights
Morris Jones, LHRC Chairman
Isabel Vartainian, LHRC Member
John Vartainian, LHRC Member
Dr. LeAnn Binger, LHRC Member
Sharlene Brown, LHRC Member
Kimberly Lindblad, Specialized Youth Services, Affiliate LHRC Member
Daniel Herr, Gateway Homes, Affiliate LHRC Member
Jimmie Spragens, Poplar Springs Hospital, Affiliate LHRC Member/Staff Support
Kate McBride, Poplar Springs Hospital
Tanisha Green, The Jireh House
Rudy Jackson, The Empowerment Center
Sophia May, Savannah's House Affiliate

Absent:

Betty Valez, LHRC Co-Chairman
Jay Quarles, Savannah's House, Affiliate

I. Call to Order

a) Chairman Morris Jones called the meeting to order at 1801 hrs.

II. Approval of the minutes

a) The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 10, 2006 LHRC meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

III. Public Comments

a) There were no public comments

IV. New Business

a) Presentation by Jireh House, LLC.

- i. Ms. Tanisha Green, Executive Director for Jireh House presented information regarding a new private agency located in Waverly, Virginia offering a community group home program for adults with mental retardation. The program has had their policies and procedures approved by the Office of Human Rights and are requesting affiliation with the Petersburg Regional Local Human Rights Community.
- ii. A motion was made and passed that the LHRC go into Executive Session at 1830 hrs pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 for the protection of the privacy on individuals and their records and personal matters not related to public business.
- iii. Upon reconvening into open session, the Local Human Rights Committee certified that only business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.
- iv. Roll Call: Isabel Varatanian, so certified; John Varatanian, so certified; LeeAnn Binger, so certified; Sharlene Dandridge, so certified; Morris Jones, so certified
- v. A motion was made to allow the Jireh House to affiliate with the Petersburg Regional LHRC. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

V. Old Business

- a. Empowerment Clinical Consulting requested to be placed on the next LHRC committee agenda. The committee has requested a copy of the human rights policy and procedures.

VI. Advocate Report

VII. Affiliate Report

- a) Specialized Youth Services-presented report for program

- b) Poplar Springs Hospital- presented report for program
- c) Gateway Homes- presented report for program

VIII. Closed Session

- a) A motion was made and passed that the LHRC go into Executive Session at 1900 hrs pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 for the protection of the privacy on individuals and their records and personal matters not related to public business.
 - vi. Upon reconvening into open session, the Local Human Rights Committee certified that only business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.
 - vii. Roll Call: Izabell Vartanian, so certified; John Vartanian, so certified; Sharlene Dandridge, so certified; Dr. LeAnn Binger, so certified.

IX. Other Business

- a) Mr. Bowser announced that the proposed regulations for the Office of Human Rights has been approved by the Govenor. The open comment session will soon be announced and a state wide training will be held sometime in the spring of 2007.
- b) Mention was made of the upcoming State Human Rights Seminar located in Richmond, Virginia on September 7 & 8, 2006 has been postponed due to the delay in the approval of the proposed regulations. Once a training date has been established, notice will be sent to all LHRC members.

An updated

X. Adjournment

- a) The LHRC meeting was adjourned at 2010 hrs. The next regularly scheduled LHRC meetings will be held: 11 October 2006 at 1800 hrs in the Poplar Springs Hospital private dining room.