

VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS LHRC
SWVMHI Learning Center - Dogwood Room
340 Bagley Circle, Marion, VA 24354
DATE (10/17/17) & TIME (12:00 PM)
APPROVED MINUTES

LIST MEMBERS PRESENT: E. Denton Staley, Chairperson; Gardner Umbarger, Vice Chairperson; Deidra Mathena; Michelle Debord

LIST MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbara Bartnik, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Rotenberry, Human Rights Advocate; Cynthia McClaskey, PhD; Sam Dillon, SHRC Member; Rhonda Ball; Wanda Ward

CALL TO ORDER

E. Denton Staley (Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:18 PM. Introductions were made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was motioned to be approved by Gardner Umbarger seconded by Diedra Mathena and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The April 18, 2017 minutes were amended to change wording about the LHRC merger and motioned to be approved by Gardner Umbarger seconded by Diedra Mathena and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

LHRC VICE CHAIR CONFIRMATION

Gardner Umbarger formally accepted the LHRC position of Vice Chairperson, previously nominated at voted in at the last LHRC meeting.

SHRC MEMBER

Sam Dillon, SHRC Member, discussed SHRC processes and the unique dynamics with VCBR. Mr. Dillon also invited members to the upcoming SHRC meeting in Wytheville on October 27, 2017. Mr. Dillon also discussed the importance of the accuracy of the LHRC rating scale when nominating new members.

ADVOCATE UPDATE

- Continued efforts to recruit for LHRC consumer member(s)
- OHR Region 3 is fully staffed
- Upcoming resources for community provider investigations
- Community provider site visits

SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

- Facility Updates provided by Director Cynthia McClaskey, PhD included facility census/capacity dynamics, staffing recruitment challenges and regional shortage of live deaf/hard of hearing interpreters.
- Director Cynthia McClaskey, PhD discussed ongoing efforts to be in compliance with the revised human rights regulations, stating the last steps are in progress which include policy updates and finalizing processes with the use of freedom and dignity restrictions.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

LHRC members were advised of travel reimbursement available to them and future members, which may also help with recruitment from far southwest Virginia. Forms were briefly explained by the advocate. No members wished to submit for reimbursement, but may contact the advocate for further questions.

LHRC BYLAWS

LHRC members reviewed revised bylaws and the advocate provided technical assistance. The bylaws were motioned to be adopted by Michelle Debord seconded by Gardner Umbarger and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

CLOSED (EXECUTIVE) SESSION - Upon a motion made by Diedra Mathena seconded by Gardner Umbarger, the committee entered closed session at 2:15 PM pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711, a.15 and §2.2-37.05.5 for the purpose of discussion of medical record / treatment plans.

- Individual Restriction of Visitation and Telephone Usage – Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board
The LHRC reviewed this restrictive plan and approved provided recommendations are completed:
 - Involve guardian with mail
 - Plan should include positive reinforcers/educational component that includes communication with non-violent recommendations, specific appropriate frustration actions, consider PRN medication
- Two Individual Restriction Updates – DePaul Community Resources
The LHRC reviewed updates from DePaul on two plans previously approved by the LHRC on April 18, 2017.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Upon reconvening in open session at 2:51 PM, all members of the Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each ones' knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.

2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

The committee continues to keep a quarterly schedule, with special called meetings as needed, with the upcoming dates of January 23, April 17, July 17, and October 16.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Michelle Debord at 3:30 seconded by Gardner Umbarger and unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

These Minutes were transcribed by Brandon Rotenberry, MSW, Human Rights Advocate.