



**VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS LHRC  
Minutes  
May 20, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee:

Present: Mark Fendig, Chair; Rachel Jones; Elvera McLees; Denton Staley;  
and Jo Ann Johns

Absent: Willie McFarlane and Beverly Derian

Others Present:

Robyn Anderson, Community Services Director; Phil Jones, RM/QM Director;  
Cynthia McClaskey, PhD, Facility Director; Douglas Keen, BSN, RN, Program  
Manager, Liaison; Merle Obregon, Staff Development and Training Director;  
Nan Neese, Regional Human Rights Advocate and Patricia Evans, CAP,  
Administrative Assistant.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mark Fendig, Chairperson, called the Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) meeting to order at 12:10 P.M. on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute, Learning Center Dogwood Room.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**        There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Elvera McLees moved to approve the LHRC Meeting agenda for May 20, 2014. Rachel Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by Committee.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. McLees moved to approve the LHRC Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2013 (Special Meeting), November 19, 2013 (Regular Meeting), and March 11, 2014 (Special Meeting). Ms. Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by Committee.

**SWVMHI Reports**

Robyn Anderson reviewed with the Committee the current Ready for Discharge and Barriers to Discharge Reports for patients within SWVMHI for the periods of the calendar year 2013 and 1Q 2014 (Jan – Mar). Ms. Anderson provided the Committee with the team, unit, and CSB breakdown



of individuals who are currently on the Ready for Discharge and Extraordinary Barriers Lists. She reviewed types of barriers but more importantly the complexity of discharge planning. Robyn announced that SWVMHI had received special funding for 2 individuals with extremely complex needs.

Phil Jones reviewed with the Committee the Seclusion/Restraints Reports for the periods of the calendar year 2013 and 1Q 2014 (Jan – Mar). Mr. Jones provided thorough explanation of the detailed graphs reviewed with the Committee and responded to the members' questions.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Ms. Jones moved that the LHRC go into closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711.A. (4) and (15) for the purpose of protecting the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and the discussion of medical and mental records, namely to receive and discuss an update regarding the restrictive treatment plan that was the subject of the closed session on March 11, 2014. Mr. Staley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Staley moved to convene public session, Dr. McLees seconded the motion, and the Chairman opened the meeting. Ms. Jones moved that each member certify that, to the best of their knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from open meetings requirements were heard, discussed, or considered. Mr. Staley seconded the motion. Each member properly certified.

The Committee requested an update from Dr. Hammons at the next meeting.

## **Discussion of SWVMHI TOVA Program**

At the request of a Committee member, Ms. Merle Obregon discussed the facility's TOVA (Therapeutic Options of Virginia) program that is taught to staff. This program is followed to prevent patients from being placed in restraints and when necessary, placed in the least restriction possible to maintain safety of the patient and staff. Ms. Obregon explained that MOCK CODES are performed on each ward every quarter in order to give staff the opportunity to practice their skills. After code processing has developed a communication between staff and trainers to improve on processes, tips are published to improve staff participation.

The Committee requested a demonstration of the skills at a future meeting. This will be arranged.

There was also some discussion about the types of restraint devices used at the facility so other arrangements will be made with the nursing department to show equipment to the members.

## **SWVMHI Reports continued**

Cynthia McClaskey, Ph.D., Director, presented the Committee with the Provider Annual Report for 2013 and the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report for Jan 1- March 31, 2014.

This was the first time the actual CHRIS reports were presented to the Committee as required by the State Committee. There was discussion about the length of the printout without a lot of



substance and concern was raised about names captured in the reports. The Committee will make an effort to forward this concern to the SHRC.

The motion was made to accept the reports as submitted, seconded and approved.

Dr. McClaskey updated the Committee about issues and changes since the Deed's family tragedy including the availability and tracking of psychiatric hospital beds. Dr. McClaskey informed the LHRC that SWVMHI would be adding 10 beds to its capacity.

## **REGIONAL ADVOCATE REPORT**

Given the length of the Agenda, the Advocate's report was postponed until the July meeting with the exception of the reappointments of Elvera McLees and Mark Fendig. The members present invited Dr. McLees and Mr. Fendig to submit application for reappointment and directed Nan Neese to forward their applications to the SHRC with the members' recommendation for reappointment.

## **RIDGEVIEW PAVILION**

Mr. Doug Keen, Wellmont's Ridgeview Program Director, presented and reviewed the CHRIS reports for Ridgeview Pavilion for the periods of the calendar year 2013 and 1Q 2014 (Jan-Mar).

The motion was made to accept the reports as presented by Mr. Keen, seconded, and it was unanimously approved by Committee.

Mr. Keen presented an update of issues and staffing within Ridgeview and responded to the member's questions.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

**Nan Neese reminded the LHRC that the next Agenda should include Election of Officers.**

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, July 15, 2014**, at 12:00 Noon in the Dogwood Room of the Training Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 P.M.

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Chair