

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia

**Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 12:30 p.m.**  
**January 23, 2006**

Present: Karen Cochran, Flora Haas, Ski Washington, Marge Brimmer, Stephen Ryan, Lee Godfrey, Debbie Harris, Committee Members; Randy Urgo, Advocate; Susan Frushour, Director's Liaison  
Absent: Rebecca Currin, VOPA; Mark Seymour, CCCA Advocate

Karen Cochran, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on January 23, 2006. Minutes for the December 12, 2005 meeting were approved with changes. A quorum was present to conduct business.

John Beghtol presented an overview of the Mall Programs to the Committee and also discussed plans for the new facility.

A three-month review of the annual treatment plan for an individual was approved, with one abstention, with the following recommendations: 1) Staff make an effort to increase the individual's exercise; 2) Staff seek a consultation with a bilingual psychiatrist/psychologist and pursue hiring bilingual staff (nursing/mental health aides) in an effort to develop a rapport with the individual and who would be from the individual's culture; and 3) Staff obtain radio with batteries (crank type).

Randy Urgo reviewed the Advocate's Report and selected provisions of the Freedom of Information Act pertaining to the SHRC. Mr. Urgo will check on provisions that may impact on how ECT procedures are performed by the Committee.

The Committee reviewed preliminary revisions made to the by-laws and made the following additional changes:

- 2.1., 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence, add to end of sentence "including at least one mental health care professional and two mental health consumers serving on the Committee."
- 3.5, change the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence to read, "The duties of the Committee Secretary are threefold:" and delete the "i, ii, iii,".
- Delete Section 6.1.
- Change Section 6.2 to 6.1.
- On last page, in the Adoption paragraph, change "2005" to "2006".

Susan Frushour reported on corrective action taken by the Social Work Department regarding needed signatures by the patient/LAR on the Needs Lists and Discharge Plans. This issue was brought up during the M.P. hearing.

Ms. Frushour also gave an update on the action plan for an individual, stating the individual did not want his mother to be his LAR. The Advocate also provided further information.

The Committee reviewed the two hearing reports for three individuals from December's meeting. Ms. Frushour reported on the Hospital's responses to both hearings, stating an update on one of the hearing's will be due in April as requested by the Committee.

Ms. Frushour reviewed the Barriers to Discharge Report and will report back next month on an individual who will need additional funds for discharge.

The next meeting will be held February 28, 2006.

**APPROVED:**

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Margaret Bowman  
Secretary, LHRC

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Karen Cochran  
Chair, LHRC