

Western State Hospital
Staunton, Virginia

Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 12:30 p.m.
June 26,, 2006

Present: Karen Cochran, Ski Washington, Debbie Harris, Rev. David Reed, and Stephen Ryan, Committee Members; Chuck Collins, Randy Urgo, Mark Seymour; and Susan Frushour;
Absent: Flora Haas, Marge Brimmer, Linda Thumma, and Rebecca Currin

Karen Cochran, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on June 26, 2006. It was noted that a quorum of members was present. Minutes for March 27, April 24, and May 22 meetings were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

A hearing petition for an individual was presented to the Committee by the Advocate with regard to §100.A.1.c. Freedom to have and spend personal money and §100.C.1.a. Assessed and documented all possible alternatives to the proposed restriction, taking into account the individual's medical and mental condition, behavior, preferences, nursing and medication needs, and the ability to function independently; b. Determined that the proposed restriction is necessary for effective treatment of the individual or to protect him or others from personal harm, injury or death; c. Documented in the individual's services record the specific reason for the restriction; and d. Explained, so the individual can understand, the reason for the restriction, the criteria for removal, and the individual's right to a fair review of whether the restriction is permissible. The Committee found no violation of §100.A.1.c., however, found a violation of §100.C.1.a-d. The following recommendations were made: (1) Request the treatment team meet with the CSB and client and he be given a balance of his account and his income and expenses be discussed with him; (2) Client is to be given by WSH his entire \$50 at the start of the month; (3) The treatment team staff is to evaluate the patient's budgeting skills, and if he evidences problems in money management, add budget/money management to his treatment needs.; (4) In the future, if any patients have restriction on distribution of their money, the Facility needs to follow the policy as stated in §100.C.1.a-d as related especially to documentation requirements.

The Annual Review of Ward Rules for A6 was presented and approved.

The Advocate gave his monthly report with the emerging issue being issues related to informed consent and meaningful participation in treatment decision-making.

Election of officers was conducted with Debbie Harris being elected Chair. Karen Cochran was elected Interim Vice-Chair. Election of Vice-Chair and Committee Secretary was postponed to next month due to the absence of possible candidates for those positions.

Ward Rules for A5 reviewed again by the Committee for a vote and were approved with the change under "noise" as recommended at May's meeting.

Ms. Frushour reviewed the Barriers to Discharge Report and will get clarification on an "elopers" facility.

The next meeting will be held on July 24, 2006.

APPROVED:

Margaret Bowman
Secretary, LHRC

Karen Cochran
Chair, LHRC