

Western State Hospital
Staunton, Virginia

Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 12:30 p.m.
June 25, 2007

Present: Debbie Harris, Karen Cochran, Ski Washington, Linda Thumma, Marge Brimmer, Rev. David Reed; Committee Members; Randy Urgo, WSH Advocate; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Susan Frushour, Director's Liaison; Brenda Coleman, VOPA; Zachary DeVore, VOPA

Debbie Harris, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on June 25, 2007. It was noted that a quorum of members was present. Minutes of the April meeting were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

The election of officers for 2007-08 was held with Debbie Harris re-elected as Committee Chair, Rev. David Reed as Vice Chair, and Linda Thumma as Committee Secretary.

Debbie Harris brought up new membership as this was Marge Brimmer's last meeting so the Committee will need a consumer member and a regular member. NAMI and WeCare were suggested as sources to check for individuals to serve on the committee.

Richard Willis, Psychologist, and Wanda Saner, Social Worker, for Ward B1, presented the Program Description and Ward Rules. These were approved by the Committee with the following recommended changes:

- 1) Page 3, 0 Status, #2, remove last sentence.
- 2) Page 3, 0 Status, #3, change A6 to B1.
- 3) Pages 4 and 5, change level numbers to be consistent with the Hospital level system.

With regard to the Informal Complaint process, the Committee requested the following information be included in the report from the Director's Office: the unit, the date and nature of complaint, the patient's initials, the date of resolution and level of resolution, and how the complaint was resolved. Susan Frushour will convey this information to Jody Fravel, the Director's Secretary.

Randy Urgo reviewed the Advocate's Report for May and June with the Committee and answered members' inquiries on some of the complaints.

Chuck Collins requested that the SHRC newsletter, "Human Writes", be sent to the Committee members. The Liaison's Secretary will retrieve this off the internet and send out.

Brenda Coleman introduced herself as the new VOPA advocate for this region and Zachary DeVore, attorney. She explained VOPA has restructured staff and Becky Currin will no longer be representing VOPA on the Committee.

The Committee reviewed the changes made to Hospital Instruction #4030, Patient's Participation in Treatment Decision-making and Informed Consent for Treatment. The Committee was pleased with the revisions.

Susan Frushour reported on the Barriers to Discharge and answered Committee inquiries on individuals. Ms. Frushour will report back on C.E. (why waiver was lost).

The next meeting will be held on July 23, 2007.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Margaret Bowman
Secretary, LHRC

Debbie Harris
Chair, LHRC