

**Western State Hospital
Staunton, Virginia**

***Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 2:30 p.m.
October 27, 2008***

- Present:** Debbie Harris, Linda Thumma, Ski Washington, Donna Gum, Hal Meyers, Committee Members; Jerry Thomas, Advocate; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Brenda Coleman and Zachary DeVore, VOPA; Gail Burford, Director's Liaison
- Guests:** Richard Willis, Psychologist (B1); Dr. Paul Hundley
- Absent:** David Reed, Chair

Debbie Harris, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on October 27, 2008. A quorum of members was present. With a motion from Linda Thumma and a second from Hal Meyers, the September minutes were approved. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Jerry Thomas presented the advocate's report of cases from September 11 through October 14, 2008. He also presented a comparison of complaint cases from 2007 to 2008. Mr. Thomas suggested walk-around tours throughout the hospital for the newest members of the committee. He reviewed the duties of the LHRC and asked again for any suggestions the committee may have on training needs to help carry out their functions and responsibilities. He reported to the committee that one more consumer member is needed to fill an available position.

Richard Willis, Psychologist, presented the B1 Ward Rules. The committee reviewed the rules and recommended that the B1 Level System be based on hospital-wide levels.

Dr. Paul Hundley talked with the committee about the Rehab Services Department at the hospital. He explained the classes taught to provide patients with everyday living skills (how to make appointments, check on benefits, etc). He mentioned the Canteen, Car Wash, and Outside Employment the patients interact in to 'get them where they need to be'.

Chuck Collins gave an update on the SHRC Meeting held on October 24, 2008.

Brenda Coleman distributed the new Goals and Objectives for VOPA. They are all posted via website.

The next meeting will be held on December 8, 2008.

Upon a unanimous vote, the Local Human Rights Committee convened in Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code, 2.2-3711(15), for the purpose of discussion or consideration of medical and mental records excluded from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, namely to discuss Western State Hospital's Variance Report as requested by the State Human Rights Committee.

Upon reconvening in public session, each member certified that to the best of each Local Human Rights Committee Member's 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 the Closed Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

David Reed
Chair, LHRC

Shante' M. Ball, LHRC Secretary