

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia

***Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes  
Jeffrey's Building Room 95 at 12:30 p.m.  
February 23, 2009***

**Present:** David Reed, Linda Thumma, Donna Gum, Hal Meyers, Ski Washington, Committee Members; Jerry Thomas, Patient Advocate; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Brenda Coleman, VOPA;

**Absent:** Debbie Harris, Committee Member; Gail Burford, Director's Liaison

**Guest:** Mary Baxter, RN and Dr. Michael Bowermaster, A6

David Reed, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on February 23, 2009. A quorum of members was present. With a motion from Hal Meyers and a second from Donna Gum, the January minutes were approved. The agenda was reviewed and approved with two additions.

Chuck Collins gave an overview of the Memorandum sent out to all of the Local Human Rights Committees on Provider Affiliations by Mr. Kirby Wright, Chair of the SHRC.

Mary Baxter, RN and Dr. Michael Bowermaster presented the A6 Ward Rules. They noted a few minor changes to the rules and noted the addition of Dr. Sutker now being their full-time physician. The committee commended them on how well-written the rules were.

The human rights activities from January 1-31 were presented by Jerry Thomas in his advocate's report.

There was no VOPA report to present.

Mr. Thomas gave the yearly Virginia Freedom of Information Act training to everyone.

Shante' Ball reported on behalf of Gail Burford that WSH had submitted a required CC variance report for review at the next SHRC meeting on March 6. The WSH new forensic catchment area was mentioned as well as the status on parking decals for the members. Updates were also given on the internet access for patients with plans to place at least one internet connected PC on each ward.

The committee reviewed the patient complaints, barriers to discharge list, and the forensic committee minutes with no question.

The next LHRC meeting will be held Monday, March 23, 2009. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned and a tour of the C-unit wards and First Step Mall for some of the members followed there after.

**APPROVED:**

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David Reed, Chair

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Shante' M. Ball, LHRC Secretary