

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia

*Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes*  
*Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 12:30*  
*June 22, 2009*

**Present:** David Reed, Linda Thumma, Donna Gum, Debbie Harris, Ski Washington, and Hal Meyers, Committee Members; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Zachary DeVore, VOPA, Gail Burford, Director's Liaison

**Absent:** Jerry Thomas, Patient Advocate

**Guests:** Drs. Timothy Jana and Steve Johnson, C1/2; Nathan Veldhuis, attorney on behalf of Mr. CC: via speakerphone; Drs. David Rawls, Robert Gardella and B2 Staff; and Richard Willis, psychologist from B1

David Reed, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on June 22, 2009. A quorum of members was present. With a motion by Hal Meyers, and a second by Linda Thumma, the April minutes were approved. The agenda was approved with two additions.

Drs. Steve Johnson and Timothy Jana presented the review of Mr. C.C.'s treatment plan. Nathan Veldhuis, attorney on behalf of the client and his family, listened in through speakerphone and was able to ask questions.

An update was given by Chuck Collins and Gail Burford on the June 5<sup>th</sup> SHRC Meeting. Mr. Collins noted that the four variances recommended by the committee on Mr. C.C. were approved for a period of six months.

The B2 Ward Rules were presented by Psychologist David Rawls, Dr. Robert Gardella, and B2 Staff members. They pointed out the key changes including TV and radio use, as well as the elimination of ordering out food. With a motion from Hal Meyers and a second from Linda, the B2 rules were approved as written and presented.

Chuck Collins summarized the advocate's report written by Jerry Thomas for the month of May.

Zachary DeVore with VOPA announced that Brenda Coleman will no longer be a representative. He reported that VOPA is still working on the new priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. A public comment hand-out form was given to everyone for feedback on VOPA's Focus Areas and Objections.

Gail Burford gave an overview of contraband collection from the unescorted van trips as requested at the last meeting from committee member Hal Meyers.

Lists of Patient Complaints, Barriers to Discharge, and the minutes from the most recent Forensic Privilege Committee Meetings were reviewed with no questions.

The election of officers for the 2009-2010 year was held with Donna Gum elected as Committee Chair, Hal Meyers as Vice Chair, and Ski Washington as Secretary.

Richard Willis, Psychologist presented the changes made to B1 ward rules. These changes reflect the new change of B1 becoming a certified ward and are in accordance with A1, the other CMS unit. With a motion from Debbie Harris, and a second from Linda Thumma, the changes made to B1 were approved as presented and written.

The next meeting will be held Monday, July 27. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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Donna Gum, Chair

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Shante' M. Ball, Secretary