

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia  
*Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes*  
*Jeffrey's Building, Rom 95 at 12:30*  
*May 24, 2010*

**Present:** Donna Gum, Hal Myers, Ski Washington, Stephanie Sault, Mahlon Webb Committee Members; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Zachary DeVore, VOPA; Gail Burford, Liaison to WSH Director

**Absent:** Robert Wade, Committee Member

**Guests:** T.P. Member of WSH's Citizen's Council  
George Augst, Field Director of Reimbursement for WSH, CCCA, and Catawba  
Dr. Catherine Leslie, C5/5  
Jeff Phillips, Ph.D.  
Herb Stewart, A1 Psychologist  
Carol McLain, B1 Psychologist

Donna Gum, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on May 24, 2010. A quorum of members was present. With a motion from Hal Meyers and a second by Mahlon Webb, the minutes from the April meeting were approved as written. The agenda was approved with one change in guest speaker for the Smoking Violations Discussion.

The committee opened the meeting to anyone wishing to express concerns during the public comment period.

George Augst, Reimbursement Director gave a brief history of the department and answered questions the committee had.

The VOPA report was given by Zachary DeVore. He noted that their website is back to normal and that the next VOPA initiative is voting rights for disabled persons.

Chuck Collins gave the Advocate's Report for human rights activities throughout the last month.

**Upon a motion made by Hal Myers, the committee went into executive session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711 A.15 and section 2.2-3705.5 for the discussion of medical and mental records excluded from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, to solely review the required documentation for additional ECT Treatments presented by Dr. Catherine Leslie.**

**Upon reconvening in open session, all members of the Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each ones' 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 closed session.**

The ECT documentation, earlier reviewed by Donna Gum, Chair, was discussed and noted as complete.

Jeff Phillips, PhD discussed and then answered the committee's questions regarding the consequences of smoking violations on wards and across the WSH campus.

Herb Stewart, PhD presented the A1 ward rules. Only a few minor changes were made since the last review. With a motion from Hal Meyers, and a second by Mahlon Webb, the rules were approved as presented.

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The B1 ward rules were reviewed with the committee by Carol McLain, PhD and Jeff Phillips, PhD. Since the last review, all of the deaf patients were transferred to the Opie unit and B1 became a certified admission ward.

In a discussion of committee review of ECT consent documentation, the committee stated that it will continue to follow the August 2, 2004 ECT Memo written by then Commissioner James Reinhard, M.D. In addition, with a motion made by Hal Meyers and a second by Stephanie Sault the committee agreed:

1. For all scheduled ECT Requests:
  - a. The doctor should be invited to come to the next LHRC Meeting and review the issue with the committee.
2. For all ECT Requests that occur in between meeting dates and where treatments need to begin prior:
  - a. A member of the LHRC will come in, review the signed paperwork, and sign Form 324 on behalf of the committee.
  - b. Then the request for review will be followed-up by all committee members at the next meeting.

Donna Gum commented on the "Draft" Rules of Conduct for the Stribling Building. The committee suggests the length of restrictions for unacceptable behaviors be spelled out for clarification.

The Patient Complaints, Barriers to Discharge Lists, and the IFPC Minutes were reviewed with no questions to follow.

Donna Gum, Chair announced mental health activities throughout the community. These include:

1. MHAA will have a booth at Sweet Dreams on July 24 held at Stuarts Draft Park.
2. The MHAA video is almost complete with hopes of showing at the June or July meeting.
3. Volunteers are needed, and may contact Donna, for "Shaking at the Station" held Thursday nights at Wharf Parking Lot in Staunton.

The next meeting will be June 28, 2010 at 12:30pm. Committee officer elections for 2010-2011 will be effective at the July meeting.

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