

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia  
*Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes*  
*Jeffrey's Building, Rom 95 at 12:30*  
*July 26, 2010*

**Present:** Hal Meyers, Stephanie Sault, Rob Wade, Ski Washington, Mahlon Webb, Committee Members; Chuck Collins, WSH/Regional Advocate; Zachary DeVore, Erin Haw, VOPA; Ellen Harrison, Liaison to WSH Director

**Absent:** Donna Gum, Committee Member

**Guests:** A.T. (C7-8 patient)  
M.S. (A6 patient)  
Mike Shutty, C 5/6 Psychologist  
Lee Ann Bass, C 7/8 Psychologist  
Becky Shaw, C 7/8 Social Worker

Mr. Meyers, Vice Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on July 26, 2010. With motion from Mr. Wade and a second by Mr. Washington, the minutes from the June meeting were approved as written. A quorum of members was present. The agenda was approved on a motion from Mr. Webb and seconded by Mr. Washington.

The committee opened the meeting to anyone wishing to express concerns during the public comment period. C 7/8 patient A.T. expressed concern regarding a ward transfer. A.T. will continue to work on this issue with Mr. Collins.

Mr. Collins gave a brief verbal Advocate's Report. He discussed the complaint reporting process and also noted that in addition to responding to written complaints, he makes trips to the Stribling Building before groups begin in order to reach clients that have concerns. Mr. Collins informed the committee that he promotes LHRC meeting attendance to patients during Citizen's Council meetings.

Ms. Haw with VOPA announced that they are still working on finalizing the upcoming Goals and Objectives for the new fiscal year. She intends to focus on "Protection from Harm" and time frames for investigations at all facilities.

The lists of Patient Complaints, Barriers to Discharge, and IFPC Minutes were all reviewed. The number of complaints related to diets/foods was noted. Committee will monitor number of complaints specific to volume over the next quarter.

Dr. Shutty, Psychologist for C 5/6, presented the ward rules. Dr. Shutty reviewed the revisions that were made to the rules since the last review. Mr. Webb asked how feedback is exchanged (between staff and patients) regarding ward rules. Dr. Shutty responded that there was not a formal process; however feedback is discussed and considered. Mr. Webb asked if were aware of the LHRC? Can patients with non-restricted levels attend? Dr. Shutty responded that he did not think many of the patients knew about the meetings and anyone could attend if staff is available to assist. A motion was made and passed by Dr. Sault and second by Mr. Webb to approve the ward rules as presented.

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Psychologist Dr. Bass and Social Worker Ms. Shaw presented the C 7/8 ward rules. Minor changes to the rules were reviewed. A motion was made and passed by Hal Meyers and second by Rob Wade to approve the ward rules as presented.

Ms. Harrison will communicate with psychologists as a reminder of the Blue Book requirement (pg. 24/25) for patient input into Ward Rules. Ms. Harrison and Mr. Collins will work together on advertising ideas for LHRC meetings.

A farewell/thanks celebration for Gail and Shante' was added to the agenda for August meeting.

The next meeting will be held August 23, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.

With no further business to discuss and from a motion made by Mr. Webb and second by Dr. Sault, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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Donna Gum, Chair

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Elizabeth T. Little, LHRC Secretary