

Western State Hospital  
Staunton, Virginia  
*Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes*  
*Webb Learning Center, Room B1031 at 9:30AM*  
*April 25, 2016*

- Present:** Heidi Campbell, Committee Chair, Kathy Belcher, Vice Chair; and Cheryl Talley, committee members; Erin Haw, dLCV Advocate; Shannon Conner and Tammy Long, OHR Advocates; Becky Shaw, Liaison to WSH Director; Glenda Sheffer, WSH Administrative Support
- Absent:** Karen Cochran, Secretary, John Beghtol, Teri Sumey and Ski Washington, committee members
- Guests:** Dr. Jason Stout, 1 Pine; Ms. AM, a patient from 1 Pine

The Local Human Rights Committee was called to order on April 25, 2016, by Ms. Campbell, Committee Chair. A quorum of members was not present. The members in attendance represent a subcommittee that may tentatively approve those items being presented. The minutes from the March 28, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Ms. Talley, second by Ms. Campbell, and a vote of the committee. Ms. Campbell made a motion to approve the agenda with changes. Ms. Talley seconded the motion, and the committee approved the agenda by vote.

During the Public Comment time, Ms. AM, a patient from unit 1 Pine, asked the LHRC to provide assistance regarding her requested discharge. She wants to speak with an advocate regarding the process to request a formal hearing by the LHRC. Ms. Ambrose provided Ms. M with contact information for the Office of Human Rights, and recommend she call them as they can appoint an advocate for her case.

Ms. M was also concerned about a breach in her right to privacy. On an outing to Walmart, WSH staff discovered Ms. M in a bathroom stall with her girlfriend. Ms. M believes the staff person who looked over the cubicle wall was invading her privacy. She was also concerned that her privilege level was lowered as a result of her “inappropriate” behavior while on WSH outing; she does not believe her behavior was inappropriate. She would like to be given passes to go into the community to meet with her girlfriend. She indicated she will contact the Office of Human Rights for further assistance.

Dr. Jason Stout presented the Unit Rules for 1 Pine. He had received no requests for changes to the unit rules. No changes were made from last year. The 1 Pine unit rules were approved with a motion from Ms. Belcher, a second from Ms. Talley and a vote of the subcommittee.

Dr. Stout was also asked to attend the meeting to address comments from Ms. AM during the March 28, 2016 meeting. He commented that every patient has an individualized and unique treatment plan. Ms. M commented on a list of guidelines for dealing with patients with Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) that target these individuals and makes them feel like outcasts. Dr. Stout indicated that several years ago, protocols were drafted to provide suggestions that may be included in individual treatment plans. The document is titled “Violence Prevention Protocol for Individuals with Borderline Personality Disorder.” Dr. Stout indicated he would forward a copy of the protocol to Ms. Sheffer for distribution to committee members. While the protocols were initially written to assist in the treatment of BPD individuals, they have been helpful in developing treatment plans for individuals with other diagnoses who present with difficult behaviors. All patients are involved in the development of their treatment plans, and they have the right to contest all or any part of their treatment plans.

Ms. Artea Ambrose, with the Office of Human Rights (OHR), presented the Advocates’ Report. The Office of Licensing has moved Dr. Cleopatra Booker from Acting Director to Director, as well as hiring five regional managers. The OHR and the Office of Licensing are developing a more collaborative relationship that will improve the services provided by both groups.

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The OHR is developing training for providers upon final approval and adoption of the new Human Rights Regulations.

DBHDS is amending the three Medical Waivers (ID, DS and DD). The changes will be effective July 1, 2016. These amended waivers will provide more services for individuals and families and increase flexibility in service delivery options. Ms. Lana Hurt has been hired as a new ID/DD advocate and will be part of the team assisting in the closing of treatment centers.

The OHR is currently in the process of recruiting a new advocate to cover WSH and CCCA.

The Patient Complaints Report for March was reviewed. On several of the complaints, the response does not appear to relate to the complaint. Upon further investigation, Ms. Sheffer learned that for Complaint #723, the patient did not attend all appointed groups, causing her to lose her monetary incentive for the week. The patient was upset and may not have understood that this was part of the goals in her treatment plan. For Complaint #746, the patient's delusions about his face prompted him to ask for medication to treat it. It was this medication he felt was being withheld. And regarding Complaint #739, the patient wanted the treatment team to photograph his toe, believing it was broken. The primary care physician examined the patient's toes and documented the situation and findings in the patient's chart. The care provided was appropriate to the situation. Ms. Sheffer will work with the report's creator to incorporate the committee's suggestions into the report.

Extraordinary Barriers List was reviewed. It was noted that 39 patients are currently on the list, which is a significant increase over the previous month. The committee is concerned about the number of patients who are ready for discharge but are unable to leave the hospital.

**Upon a motion made by Ms. Campbell, the committee entered closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711, a.15 and §2.2-37.05.5 for the purpose of discussion of medical record / treatment plans.**

Dr. Barry Blumenthal presented an ECT request for Ms. KF. All criteria on the request form was reviewed and was found to be complete. Dr. Tim Jana presented an ECT request for Mr. MW. The committee verified that all criteria were met, and the form was complete. These treatment plans will need to be approved by a quorum of committee members at the next meeting (May 23<sup>rd</sup>).

**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 next meeting will be held May 23, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in Room B1031 of the Webb Learning Center. Committee members will gather in the lobby to be escorted to the meeting room.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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Heidi Campbell  
Chair

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Glenda D. Sheffer  
WSH Administrative Support