

Western State Hospital
Staunton, Virginia
Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
Jeffrey's Building, Room 95 at 12:30
May 18, 2015

Present: Rob Wade, Committee Chair, Kathy Belcher, Karen Cochran, committee members; Mark Seymour, Regional Advocate; Becky Shaw, Liaison to WSH Director; Glenda Sheffer, WSH Administrative Support

Absent: Heidi Campbell, Vice Chair, Mahlon Webb, committee member; Erin Haw, dLCV Advocate

Guests: Ms. Teri Sumey, member candidate

Mr. Wade, Committee Chair, called the Local Human Rights Committee to order on May 18, 2015. Mr. Wade noted that three members were present, which is sufficient to conduct business as a sub-committee. The minutes from the April 27th meeting were reviewed and will be recommended for approval at the June meeting. The agenda was modified to move the treatment plan review for Mr. TS to the beginning of the meeting.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wade, the committee went into 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.

The treatment plan for Mr. TS was presented by Dr. Tim Jana. The committee approved the plan and requested the plan continue to be reviewed quarterly.

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 Unit Rules for 2 Oak were presented by Dr. Herb Stewart. There were no changes to the rules this year. Mr. Seymour indicated that the Advocate's telephone number on Page 2 is incorrect. The toll free number is correct; however, the local number is no longer in use. The sub-committee recommended approval of the unit rules and will present them to the full committee at the June meeting. The results of that discussion will be emailed to Dr. Stewart.

Ms. Teri Sumey, a new member candidate, was interviewed by the committee. Ms. Sumey began by providing information about her education and career. She holds a BS and MEd from James Madison University. Her degrees are in Psychology, Special Education and School Administration. She was a teacher for Staunton City Schools, focusing on special education, and served as the School Administrator (Principal) at the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA) for approximately 15 years. Having retired from CCCA, she now teaches for a special program with the Department of Education that provides assistance to young adults (aged 18 to 21) toward obtaining a GED. There are currently 2 WSH patients enrolled in the program.

Mr. Wade asked if her role in the GED program is as an employee of the hospital. She responded that the program is provided by the Virginia Department of Education and is administered through Staunton City Schools, making her an employee of that school system and not directly affiliated with the hospital. The committee indicated they would share her

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application and information with the other committee members at the June meeting. Mr. Seymour will forward Ms. Sumey's information and the committee's recommendation to the State Human Rights Committee for final acceptance.

Ms. Cochran suggested that a tour of the hospital be arranged for Ms. Sumey, herself, and possibly other new members. Ms. Sheffer will arrange for a tour of the hospital.

In the advocate's report, Mr. Seymour indicated that the vacant Senior Regional Advocate position has been filled. It is not clear at this time when the new advocate will begin attending LHRC meetings. He also indicated that the updated Human Rights Regulations have been approved and are currently available on the DBHDS website.

The April Patient Complaints Report was reviewed. Complaint #541 was discussed as it appears the complaint was not resolved. Mr. Seymour indicated he was familiar with this case. This patient was confused and disorganized at the time and was unable to effectively discuss her concerns with Dr. Walling. The current status of this patient's condition is unknown. There were no further comments about the report.

While reviewing the Extraordinary Barriers List, it was noted that Horizon Behavioral Health (Lynchburg), who had a large number of patients on the list last month, has reduced that number. Ms. Shaw expressed concerns about patient number 527851 from Northwestern Region. The most recent comment indicates he was denied by Wilbur Gardens due to psychiatric diagnosis. Additional information on this denial would be helpful. Ms. Shaw did indicate this person's mother is very involved in finding placement and this facility may have been one of her choosing, not one WSH normally utilizes.

The Internal Forensic Privilege Committee (IFPC) minutes and the Clinical Risk Management Committee (CRMC) minutes were reviewed. Discussion about the value of these reports was continued from April. The full committee will discuss whether to continue the monthly review of these reports.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wade, the committee went into 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.

The treatment plan for Mr. BP was presented by Dr. Catherine Leslie. The committee approved the plan and requested the plan continue to be reviewed quarterly.

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.

On May 28th, from 3:00PM to 5:00PM, VACSI (Valley Area Community Support, Inc.) will be conducting an open house at their new facility in Staunton at 240 Kalorama Street.

Ms. Pam Gaines has been scheduled for interviews as a potential committee member on three occasions and has not appeared to discuss her qualifications with the committee on any of these occasions. This raises concerns regarding her availability and reliability for attending the

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monthly meetings. Ms. Shaw will send a letter to Ms. Gaines advising her that she is no longer being considered for membership on the LHRC. Mr. Wade will be meeting with another potential new member later this week.

The next meeting will be held June 22nd, 2015, at 12:30 p.m. in Room A1085 of the Staff Development Offices.

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

APPROVED:

Rob Wade
Chair

Glenda D. Sheffer
WSH Administrative Support