

STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

David Boehm, Chairperson
Marion
Monica Lucas, Vice-Chairperson
Richmond
Will Childers
Hardy
Betty Crance
Fincastle
David Crews
Chatham
Timothy Russell
Williamsburg
Renee F. Valdez
Alexandria
John Shepherd
Charlottesville



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental

Services

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NELSON SMITH, COMMISSIONER

State Human Rights Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, March 7, 2024

DBHDS

Region 1

Western State Hospital

103 Valley Center Drive

Conference Rm

Staunton, VA 24401

TEAMS for Government

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/2515e4b8-46f4-44b9-af22-052a2d73fe33@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Meeting ID: 265 716 410 584

Passcode: a5R3GC

Convene

9:00 a.m.

SHRC Members Present Physically David Boehm, **Chair**; Monica Lucas, **Vice Chair**, Betty Crance, John Shepherd, David Crews, Renee Valdez, Timothy Russell, Will Childers

SHRC Members Attending Virtually

SHRC Members Absent

Staff Present Physically Taneika Goldman, State Human Rights Director
Delisa Turner, Executive Administrative Assistant, Office of Human Rights (OHR)
Mary Clair O’Hara, Associate Director for Facility Operations, OHR
Alonzo Riggins, Training and Development Coordinator, OHR
Riley Curran, Human Rights Advocate, Facility, OHR

**Staff Attending
Virtually**

Brandon Charles, Facility Operations Manager, OHR
William "BJ" Hayes, Accounts Payable, DBHDS
John Moore, Director of Financial Services, DBHDS
Cameryn Harrison, Financial Services Specialist, DBHDS

**Others
Attending in
Person**

Karen A. Taylor, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to the SHRC
George Newsome, Facility Director, Commonwealth Center for Children & Adolescents, CCCA
Sandra Price-Stroble, State Board Member, DBHDS
Ann Bevan, Director of High Needs Supports, VA Dept of Medical Assistance Services, DMAS
Deanna Rennon, BS, QMHP A&C, PBSF, Eastern Division Operations Officer, Wall Residences
Quentin Jeffers, Intake Manager, Sevita, Good Neighbor, LLC
Deborah Brinkley, LMSW, QDDP, Co-Owner, Family Sharing
Jenny Farrell, Human Rights Liaison, Family Sharing

**Others
Attending
Virtually**

Lisa Latham, Healthcare Compliance Unit, Office of the State Inspector General, OSIG
Elizabeth Donnelly, Healthcare Compliance Specialist, OSIG
Madison McRae, Healthcare Compliance Auditor, OSIG
Aaron Moore, Manager, Transportation Management Services Unit, DMAS
Paula Molina, MS, QDDP, Quality Improvement Specialist, Sevita, Good Neighbor Homes, LLC
Candy Keith, Administrator, Cornerstone Support Services

Call to Order

At 9:03, David Boehm, SHRC Chair, called the March 7, 2024, SHRC meeting to order and welcomed all to the meeting. A call for introductions were made.

**Approval of
Agenda**

At 9:06, the committee considered the agenda. Monica Lucas motioned for approval. John Shepherd 2nd. The agenda was approved, unanimously.

**Review of Draft
Minutes**

At 9:06, the SHRC reviewed the draft minutes of the January 18, 2024, meeting. Taneika Goldman informed the committee that the year will be corrected to "2024" in the adjournment section of the minutes. John Shepherd referenced the name under the presentation of travel reimbursement to include the last name of the speaker. Monica Lucas motioned. Timothy Russell 2nd. The draft minutes were approved as final with the aforementioned changes, unanimously.

Welcome and Overview:

At 9:10, George Newsome, Facility Director, Commonwealth Center for Children & Adolescents, CCCA, welcomed and thanked the committee for touring CCCA. George Newsome informed the committee how he plans to enhance the treatment and culture within the facility since beginning his role as the new facility director. He provided information on CCCAs census, staffing and other initiatives such as planned partnerships and alternative behavioral intervention training to increase the quality of treatment and engagement for the children, their families and the community.

Tour Debrief:

At 9:20, the SHRC discussed how the tour of Commonwealth Center for Children & Adolescents (CCCA) went on March 6, 2024. The SHRC showed great appreciation to the new director for orchestrating the tour.

Public Comment:

At 9:33, David Boehm announced the public comment. There was no public comment.

At 9:34, the SHRC reverted back to the tour debriefing.

FOIA Policy:

At 9:37, Karen Taylor provided the SHRC with detail about revisions to the Bylaws based on recent updates to the SHRC FOIA policy.

At 9:40, Monica motioned closed session. Will Childers 2nd The SHRC convened in closed session pursuant to VA CODE § 2.2-3711 (A) (8), for consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

At 9:45, upon a motion by Timothy Russell and 2nd by Betty Crance, the SHRC returned to open session. Upon reconvening in open session each member certified that, to the best of their knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters related to the stated reason for going into closed session were heard, discussed, or considered.

Monica Lucas motioned for approval of the updated SHRC Bylaws. John Shepherd 2nd.

BREAK

At 9:52, David Boehm called for a brief break.

**Presentation:
Travel
Reimbursement**

At 10:00, John Moore and William "BJ" Hayes provided a follow up to the travel reimbursement discussion that occurred at the January 18, 2023, meeting. John Moore stated that the exemption was not approved by the Department of Accounts. BJ Hayes shared insight on his research and the cost benefit analysis to allow state volunteers serving on Boards and Committees like the SHRC, to receive the higher mileage reimbursement rate when their miles are 363 or less, This is an increase from the previous standard of 200 miles or less.

DMAS Presentation: Transportation Providers At 10:10, Ann Bevan and Aaron Moore provided the SHRC with information pertaining to medical transportation services for providers and their clients. Aaron Moore referenced fee for service, managed care organizations and transportation information management systems and how DMAS utilizes software to keep track of transportation provider performance measures.

BREAK At 11:11, David Boehm called for a brief break.

OHR Updates: At 11:27, Alonzo Riggins, Training and Development Coordinator, gave an overview of different projects that he's been working on. He referenced efforts to obtain and clean data from licensed community providers about the use of seclusion and restraints, various training initiatives, and assisting with the facility team within OHR.

Provider Roundtable: At 12:08, the SHRC held a roundtable session with representatives from various licensed community provider locations within Region 1 (Wall Residences, Sevita, Good Neighbor, LLC and Family Sharing). David Boehm announced the purpose of the Roundtable and called for committee member introductions. Taneika Goldman provided an overview of the OHR and facilitated the segway for the providers in attendance to share about their service initiatives.

BREAK At 12:53, David Boehm called for a brief break.

Facility Operations At 1:08, the committee received updates on OHR Facility Operations.

CCCA Facility Report At 1:11, Riley Curran, presented the advocate's report on human rights complaints and seclusion and restraint for Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA) for calendar year 2023 with comparison to calendar year 2022.

VBCR Report At 1:40, Mary Clair O'Hara, presented the advocate's report on human rights complaints and seclusion and restraint for Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation for the month of December 2023.

Violation Letters At 1:43, Mary Clair O'Hara, presented the summary of violation letters issued to DBHDS-operated hospitals and centers for the month of January 2024.

S/R & Death At 1:48, Mary Clair O'Hara, presented seclusion, restraint, and death data for DBHDS-operated hospitals and centers for the month of December 2023.

At 1:56, Monica Lucas motioned closed session. Betty Crance 2nd Upon a motion by Monica Lucas, the SHRC convened in closed session pursuant to VA CODE § 2.2-3711 (A) (8), for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, discussion of their medical records.

At 2:12, upon a motion by Will Childers and 2nd by Betty Crance, the SHRC returned to open session. Upon reconvening in open session each member certified that, to the best of their knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters related to the stated reason for going into closed session were heard, discussed, or considered.

LHRC Business: At 2:13, the SHRC considered LHRC business.

LHRC Membership: Betty Crance made a motion to approve the Charlottesville Area, Prince William County and Southeastern Regional LHRC memberships as recommended. John Shepherd 2nd. There was discussion and consideration of the notes on the Member Rating Sheets. Motion passed, unanimously.

Region 1
Charlottesville Area LHRC
Candy Keith
Tricia Suszynski

Region 2
Prince William County LHRC
Erica Jackson

Region 5
Southeastern Regional LHRC
Megan Kayser

Subcommittees: At 2:18, the SHRC considered reports from the subcommittees

Rights – Resources Subcommittees The Rights-Resources Subcommittee alongside Alonzo Riggins came up with ideas to extend the Human Rights information via YouTube services for insight videos. Taneika Goldman offered up the idea of a human rights poster contest to involve CSBs, other licensed community providers, state facilities and individuals to get the word out.

Workplan Subcommittees The committee will receive annual FOIA training and plans to invite a presentation about Ukeru.

Policy
Subcommittees

The Policy Subcommittee noted the update to the Bylaws based on the SHRC FOIA Policy.

Officer
Subcommittee

The Officer Subcommittee will present a slate of Officers at the April 2024 meeting. The goal is to vote on new Officers by May, to allow them the opportunity to shadow current Officers at the June 2024 meeting.

Membership
Subcommittee

Will Childers indicated that there was a potential applicant to fulfill a Professional member vacancy for the SHRC. The candidate will come to the next SHRC meeting for an interview.

Other

David Bohem informed the committee that the next SHRC meeting will be held at Southwest Virginia Mental Health Institute, and the committee will plan to tour a licensed community provider in the Abington area.

Adjournment

At 2:34, the March 7, 2024, SHRC Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting

April 11, 2024

Marion, VA