

MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA TRAINING CENTER
July 26, 2006

PRESENT: Donald Lyons, Chairperson
Joyce Bunn
Sandy Yates
Wilma Brown
Loretta Evans
Dr. Ohlen Wilson
BJ McKnight, Human Rights Advocate
Dr. Mark Witherspoon, Psychology Director
Dr. Rafael Semidei, Psychiatrist
Karen Poe, Staff Development Director

ABSENT: Charlotte Barkley
Betty Meredith
Denice Olinger

The Local Human Rights Committee for Southwestern Virginia Training Center met on Wednesday, July 26, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. in the IHP Review Room. Chairperson, Donald Lyons, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

On a motion by Dr. Ohlen Wilson, and a second by Joyce Bunn, the minutes from the June 28, 2006, meeting were unanimously approved.

BJ brought up the Internet posting of LHRC minutes. It was unanimously decided by the committee, on a motion by Loretta Evans and a second by Joyce Bunn, that the Center should continue to maintain a facility website where the LHRC minutes are posted. A link will be created and the minutes will be available through that link.

A motion was made by Sandy Yates and seconded by Dr. Wilson that the Local Human Rights Committee go into Executive Session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711.A(4) and (15) for the purpose of hearing the Abuse and Neglect Report by Larry Smith, Chief of Program Support Services, and reviewing the restrictive behavior plans and/or medication reviews of residents. Such review would necessarily involve discussion and consideration of mental and medical records which are confidential and exempted from the Freedom of Information Act.

Following Larry Smith's report, the restrictive behavior plans for residents were presented by the Center's psychologists and reviewed by the LHRC.

After review in Executive Session, a motion was made by Ohlen Wilson and seconded by Loretta Evans that the LHRC convene in Open Session. The motion carried.

Upon reconvening in Open Session, the Local Human Rights Committee unanimously certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

On a motion made by Dr. Wilson and a second by Joyce Bunn, the LHRC unanimously approved as presented individual programs presented by first names and register numbers for residents of Connections, New Horizon, and Pathways Cottages with one progress report to be given at next month's meeting.

BJ handed out copies of the Advocate's May Report. She will give a full report at next month's meeting.

BJ reported the reason she was absent from the June LHRC meeting. She attended Leadership Training for Central Office Staff in Richmond. The training incorporated the Commissioner's vision of the Department becoming a High Performance Organization.

Karen Poe reported that the Virginia Tech project is finished and all went well. She is looking forward to receiving the resulting data.

The next meeting of the LHRC is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, 2006.

A motion was made by Ohlen Wilson and seconded by Loretta Evans that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.