

ALEXANDRIA LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 19, 2007 meeting
Community Services Board Offices
Alexandria, Virginia
(Draft September 26, 2007)

Committee members present: Marisa Brown, Jim Ewalt, Kelly Hauck, Scott Singleton, and Holly Stachelski. Members excused: Gerylee Brown, Naomi Cooper, Mary LoCicero.

Also present: Jennifer Cohen Cordero, CSB Liaison HR Advocate, and Tim Simmons, Senior Human Rights Advocate.

Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Scott Singleton at 7:00PM.

Kelly moved and Marisa seconded that Jim Ewalt be elected as Secretary of the Committee. The motion was adopted.

Holly moved and Jim seconded that Kelly be appointed as the Committee's representative to the NOVA Regional LHRC. The motion was adopted.

Minutes of last meeting.

Kelly moved and Marisa seconded that the minutes of the June 10, 2007 meeting be approved as presented. The motion was adopted.

Report from the CSB Human Rights Advocate.

Jennifer reported that she had conducted two investigations. Both involved several founded violations. In each case corrective actions have been taken. Jennifer responded to questions from committee members and there was discussion about the investigations.

Jennifer reported that Mary was absent because she is in the hospital. The committee signed a get well card that will be sent to her.

Jennifer had a conversation with the State Human Rights Director regarding what issues need to come before the LHRC. A suggested

guideline is, “something done for one consumer, but not all other consumers.”

Jennifer will request that the Intellectual Disability Case Management Director, Phil Caldwell, come to a future meeting to discuss details of the incident where a consumer was accidentally burned by a hair dryer.

Report from the State Human Rights Advocate.

Tim reported that there will be a training session 6:30 – 8:30 PM on November 8, 2007, at the Northern Virginia Training Center.

Tim distributed a letter generated by Deb Lochart and Mary Towle addressing LHRC review of the use of psychotropic drugs. It states that, “...the Human Rights regulations do not require that the use of psychotropic drugs be reviewed by the LHRC only that the informed consent is obtained prior to implementation.” It goes on to note however, that programs certified by the Federal Government that include the use of psychotropic drugs are required to be reviewed and that by a long standing mutual agreement, it has been the practice of these programs to bring their plans to the LHRC for review.

Report from LHRC members.

Kelly, Holly and Marisa reported on the State Human Rights Conference they attended in Richmond. Materials from the sessions were distributed. There was discussion particularly about the review of residential restrictive rules and regulations.

Marisa, Holly and Kelly reported on their site visits to two local group homes: 4547 Seminary Road and 3 West Linden. There was discussion about their findings and observations. A written report about each visit was prepared and will be forwarded to the CSB.

Review of proposed CSB Residential Program Rules.

The Committee continued its review of the proposed CSB residential program rules. The consensus is that the proposed rules are overly general and cannot be applied equally to all consumers. The Committee directed Jennifer to take the proposed rules back to the CSB staff for revision. It also directed Jennifer to convey to the CSB

staff that the committee does not mean to be adversarial but rather, is trying to assist in securing compliance.

Other Business.

Scott presented the idea of using a secure web site for Committee communications and housing of documents. There was discussion and the consensus is that is a good idea. Scott will provide more information about the service at the next meeting.

Adjournment.

Marisa moved and Holly seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Next Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at the CSB offices.