

APPROVED

Danville-Pittsylvania County Regional Local Human Rights Committee

Meeting Minutes

M. T. Sorrell

April 25, 2006

5:30 PM

Members in attendance: Greg Greene, Jeanne White, Kelly Matthews, Janice Bailey, Mamie Wyatt, and Jennifer Taylor

Members Absent: Mary Lou Dunn

Affiliated Programs in attendance: Johnny Newman and Alger Robbins-Johnny's Heroes, Gerald and Darlene Doss-Doss Estates, Betty Wilson-R. C. Right Home, Chris Wright-Director Executive Director-DARC,

Others in attendance: Sherry Miles, Regional Advocate-Region VI, Stanley Cousins, Human Rights Advocate Senior-SVMHI, and Justin Berkley-Madeline Center At Home

Jennifer Taylor, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Executive Session

The Committee went into Executive Session to interview a candidate for one of three vacancies on the Danville-Pittsylvania County Regional LHRC Committee. The motion was made and passed that the Danville-Pittsylvania Regional LHRC go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.1-344 A (15) for the purpose of interviewing for a member vacancy.

Upon reconvening in open session, the Committee unanimously passed a motion to nominate applicant Janet Weeks for membership to Danville-Pittsylvania County Regional LHRC.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee voted unanimously to accept the January 10, 2006 minutes as written.

Recruitment Needs

The Committee continues to need to recruit for a professional and consumer members. Sherry Miles will inquiry with the applicant that did not attend the meeting to determine if she is still interested. Members will continue to recruit for a consumer.

Clerical Support to Committee

Chris Wright of DARC & MT Sorrell volunteered to mail out meeting announcements and any information needed for each meeting. Darlene Doss of Doss Estates volunteered to take the minutes. This will begin at the next meeting.

Affiliation Request

Justin Berkley of the Madeline Center At Home requested LHRC affiliation to expand their services into the Danville area. Mr. Berkley explained that his program wants to provide intensive in-home services in the area. This program is based in Lynchburg, VA. The Committee reviewed his human rights policies and procedures and granted LHRC affiliation by unanimous vote.

Regional Report

Ms. Miles reported on the status of the Human Rights Regulations. She reported that the regulations are close to being ready for public comment and ensured that members would be contacted to give them the opportunity to comment, if desired. The SHRC/LHRC seminar is tentatively scheduled for September 7-8, 2006 at the Holiday Inn-Koger Center, Richmond, VA. Committee members received the 2006 SHRC/LHRC Survey and those who were unable to complete the form while at the meeting received self-addressed stamped envelope to send responses directly to Margaret Walsh. Committee received a copy of the "Human Writes"- Winter 2006 and was encouraged to submit any suggestions to the SHRC. The Committee reviewed the February 2, memo for the SHRC concerning by-laws. The Committee will discuss suggested by-law changes at the next meeting.

Organizational Report

R. C. Right/C&K Group Home

Betty Wilson reported that each home has three consumers and neither home experienced any human rights complaints. Consumers continue to participate in various community activities.

Doss Estates

Darlene Doss reported that her program continues to have two consumers. Mrs. Doss reported that the Danville Register & Bee wrote a very positive story about her family and the services provided by Doss Estates. In addition, Mrs. Doss reported that she and her husband had been invited to attend a meeting this weekend with Dr. Jim Reinhard, Commissioner to discuss various issues facing consumers and families. She invited anyone with comments to let her know and she would convey them to the Commissioner.

M.T. Sorrell

Chris Wright reported a new resident has moved into the program, making the census 14. Several structural changes were made to the home and consumers continue to participate in various community activities. A local news television show will air a story about the DARC including MT Sorrell Home. Mr. Wright invited providers in attendance to bring their consumers to the Field Day festivities scheduled for May 25, 2006. This is a countywide activity for school aged children and other consumers. Mr. Wright asked the Committee to consider having various speakers come in to discuss services that may be beneficial to providers and consumers. Mr. Wright is a member of the Special

Education Advisory Council and this organization is compiling a resource book of services available in the area. Mr. Wright invited anyone interested in being listed in that book to contact him. Mr. Wright reported no human rights complaints.

Johnny 's Heroes

Alger Robbins reported the program currently has four consumers and overall everything is going well. Two of the four consumers made the honor roll at school and the other consumers only missed honor roll by one grade. During Spring Break, the consumers participated in various community activities. In an effort to improve socialization skills, the consumers were participating in a "candle light" dinner, which required a different style of dress that was pleasing to consumers. Mr. Robbins reported no human rights complaints.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held on July 11, 2006 at 5:30 pm at M. T. Sorrell Home.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.