

MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2008

Members Present: Joe Sharrer, Dick Travis, Florence Ferguson, Sandra Mongold

Members Absent:

Others Present: Chuck Collins, Mark Seymour (HR Advocates), Heather Newland, (Pleasant View, Inc), John Humphreys (Fair Haven Residential), Diane Babral (RMH), Christy Collins (CC & Associates), Judy Otto, Crystal Kwolek (CJ Designs), Mary Ellen Chewing (The Arc), Justine Waits (Lutheran Family Services), Darlene Hilton (Specialized Youth Services), Terri Gibbs, Jim Collins (Minnick Education), Marcia DuBois (VAIL), Dane Byers (Crossroads Counseling Center), Holly Albrite (HRCSB)

Guest: Page Shields, Community member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

Introductions were made by those in attendance

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Joe Sharrer welcomed new LHRC member Sandra Mongold.

Holly Albrite thanked Joe Sharrer for his active involvement and leadership as committee chair during his two terms on the HRLHRC. She presented him with a certificate of appreciation from the state and a perennial plant from the committee. Chuck Collins extended his appreciation to Joe and shared how much he has enjoyed working with Joe both on the committee and earlier as executive director of the HRCSB.

Florence Ferguson and Dick Travis have completed the required paperwork for the reappointment for a second term. Chuck Collins will submit to the SHRC. They were thanked for their willingness to continue as committee members. Page Shields was introduced as a candidate for the committee vacancy created by Joe Sharrer's departure. As a licensed therapist, she would fill the category of healthcare provider. She will meet with the members who will be continuing on the committee at the end of the meeting.

There is still a consumer vacancy. Joe Sharrer encouraged all affiliates to have active participation in identifying potential members.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Dick Travis and seconded by Florence Ferguson to accept the minutes from the January 28, 2008 meeting. The motion was passed by all committee members.

ANNUAL PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

VAIL – Marcia DuBois reported that VAIL is phasing out its supportive employment program because it has been a small program for the agency, requiring an involved, costly accreditation process through CARF in order to operate. The agency had no informal or formal human rights complaints in the past year and is in good standing with licensure. The local affiliated program worked with 11 consumers during the past year.

CJ Designs – Judy Otto and Crystal Kwolek provided a report on the agency’s two residential programs that serve a total of eight individuals. Their human rights policies were recently updated to conform to revised regulations. Information was provided regarding a case with next of kin issues. The agency had three formal human rights complaints during the reporting year that were reviewed with the committee. Chuck Collins commended the program’s cooperation during the investigation and resolution of the complaints.

Fair Haven – John Humphreys continues to operate two residential programs that currently serve eight individuals. Their human rights policies were recently updated to conform to revised regulations. There were no informal or formal complaints during the year.

CC and Associates– Christy Collins reported that the agency provided waiver services to 18 individuals in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area in the past year. She reviewed an informal complaint that occurred in the Augusta County program for information purposes only since this falls within the purview of that locality’s LHRC.

Crossroads Counseling Physical Safety Policy

Dane Byers informed the committee that the agency is establishing a physical safety policy for the in-school behavioral support program that would permit the use of Mandt restraint techniques when necessary to protect the safety of consumers and/or others. Following discussion the committee recommended that the reviewed information be revised to distinguish between the policy and the parental notification form and to further define the potential techniques and terms. A motion was made and accepted to carry this forward to the next meeting when the revised policy and notification can be presented.

ADVOCATE REPORTS

Chuck Collins briefly reviewed the mental health law changes passed by the General Assembly. He also commended the affiliates for submitting revised human right policies to him within two weeks of the deadline and apologized for the last minute change by the state office to require submission.

Mark Seymour noted a big influx of children’s providers statewide and reported that licensing by DMHMRSAS has an expanded role in monitoring these programs.

OTHER BUSINESS / COMMENTS FROM AFFILIATES

Minnick Education Services reported that they have moved to 779 Massanutten Street in Harrisonburg and are pleased with the new accommodations. Lutheran Family Services has also moved their local office to this location.

Fair Haven Residential will temporarily relocate one of its residences while work is done on the permanent site.

RMH is in the process of determining the implications of the MH law changes for inpatient care and is working towards the hospital's move to a new location.

Holly Albrite requested that affiliates let her know of any address or other changes so that information remains current for committee purposes. She reminded the committee that there are now 14 affiliates which is one below the number at which they had agreed that setting a cap on the number of affiliates would be reconsidered.

Joe Sharrer thanked the affiliates for providing the community with strong, well run programs.

The committee selected a slate of officers as follows: Dick Travis – Chair, Florence Ferguson – Vice Chair, Sandra Mongold – Secretary.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2008 at 2:00 pm at the CSB. Refreshments provided by Specialized Youth Services.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Ferguson
HRLHRC Secretary

Holly Albrite
HRCSB Liaison/Recording Secretary