

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Local Human Rights Committee

MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2011

Members Present: Dick Travis, Florence Ferguson, Page Shield, Gayl Brunk

Others Present: Chuck Collins, (HR Advocate), Joe Lynch (SHRC), Andrée Gitchell (RMH), Mary Ellen Chewning and Terri Gibb (The Arc), Crystal Kwolek (C.J. Designs), John Humphrey's (Fair Haven Residential Services), Christy Collins (CC & Associates), Kathy Nelson and Debbie Wolfe (HRCSB), Elizabeth Bowman of Crossroads to Brain Injury Recovery, Virginia Loung, Cindy Ring.

CALL TO ORDER/MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

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

Those in attendance made introductions.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes from January 10, 2011 meeting as mailed was made by Page Shields and unanimously approved by the committee.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE FOR TWO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A Certificate of Recognition and a plant were presented to Dick Travis and Florence Ferguson in recognition of their 6 years of service to the HR LHRC

VOTE ON REAPPOINTMENTS

Page Shields was reappointed for a second term.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE APOINMENT

Page Shields was appointed to the nominating committee

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chuck Collins introduced Elizabeth Fowler who presented information about the agency she represents, the Crossroads Brain Injury Service of the Shenandoah Valley. The agency provides a multitude of services, free of charge, to individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury.

ANNUAL PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

Fair Haven Residential (FHRS)-John Humphreys provided the annual report. FHRS provides congregate residential support services to adult individuals with intellectual and other disabilities. FHRS currently serves 8 individuals in the OUR HOUSE facility. In the past year FHRS closed the FAIR HAVEN HOUSE and reduced their capacity from 13 beds to 8 beds. Human Rights Training is provided to staff at orientation with yearly reviews. Training is provided through lecture and discussion of

relevant sections. A test is administered to test proficiency. John reported on two medication errors that occurred during the year and added there were no formal Human Rights Complaints for the year.

PRESENTATION ON A NEW POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

Mary Ellen Chewning of The Arc OP Shop presented a newly written policy and procedure: "In House Suspension" for approval by the Committee. After the Committee reviewed the policy, Page Shields' motioned for approval. Gayl Brunk second the motion. The Committee vote was unanimous to approve the policy as written.

ADVOCATE REPORT

Chuck Collins introduced Joe Lynch from the SHRC. Together they presented the new LHRC By-Laws and Affiliate Agreements that are scheduled to go into effect June 1, 2011. The Committee Members unanimously passed the By-Laws with keeping the number of required Committee Members for the HR LHRC to a minimum of 5 and the number of times to meet in a year at 4. Dick Travis as current Chair Person signed the new By-Laws. Committee Members and Affiliates had many questions regarding the changes outlined in the Affiliate Agreement, particularly in regards to the increase of reporting to quarterly with the Annual Report being required by January 15 of each year. There were questions as to how the quarterly report will improve Human Rights for individuals and the efficiency of dealing with Human Rights issues. Affiliates did agree to continue having Kathy Nelson continuing as the HR LHRC Liaison and agreed to continued monetary support for this role. Chuck Collins agreed to provide Affiliates with a proposed Quarterly Report form that will assist Affiliates with the new requirement. Affiliates were asked to review the Affiliate Agreement and provide a signed copy to the HR LHRC Liaison prior to the next meeting scheduled for July.

OTHER BUSINESS /AFFILIATE COMMENTS

Many extended appreciation for Dick Travis and Florence Ferguson's service.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 11, 2011 at 2:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Lucy F. Simms Board Conference Room. The Lucy F. Simms Building is located at 620 Simms Avenue Harrisonburg, VA 22802

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee went into Executive Session under section 2.2-3711(A) subparagraph 1, of the Virginia Code, for a Personnel Action.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Mongold
HRLHRC Secretary

Kathy Nelson
HRCSB Liaison/Recording Secretary