

LHRC Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2008

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Bill Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance and led introductions of those present.

Public Comments/Reports: None

Minutes: After reviewing the minutes from the November 15, 2007, Pam Tessnear motioned that the minutes be approved as presented. Yannis Stivachtis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business: Nan Neese reminded members to utilize the LHRC web page, as new regulations to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) now require that draft minutes be posted for public review. Nan indicated that FOIA requirements would be the focus of a future training for the group.

The group discussed affiliate requirements and community support. Lucy McCandlish, representing New River Valley Community Services (NRVCS), noted that NRVCS had historically provided administrative support for the LHRC, but that the addition of new members and related issues has necessitated additional support—without additional reimbursement to NRVCS. Lucy asked that the group consider increasing the amount of annual dues to help offset those costs. The fee is currently \$150 per member/organization. Lucy will bring a proposal to the next LHRC meeting, which will include a budget showing how those fees would be used.

In a related matter, the group agreed that checks for membership and agreements should still be handled by NRVCS.

Nan encouraged the group to recruit additional consumers to serve on the LHRC.

Policy and procedure reviews are due by March 1.

James Gann, supervisor of the Elmtree Group Home (operated by NRVCS) attended the meeting to share the facility's house rules with LHRC, as required by the Virginia Department of Housing, which owns the property. After some discussion and recommended changes, Pam Tessnear motioned that the house rules be approved with the recommended amendments. Yannis Stivachtis seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Closed Session: Pam Tessnear made the motion that the NRV LHRC go into closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711.A. (4) and (15) for the purpose of protecting the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and the discussion of medical and mental records, namely to conduct review of individual services plans. Upon reconvening in public session, Pam Tessnear moved that each member certifies that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were heard, discussed or considered. Each member so certified.

Yannis motioned that NRVCS Plan #1 be approved for one year. Pam seconded the motion, which was approved. Yannis then motioned that NRVCS Plan #2 be approved for one year. Pam seconded the motion, which was approved.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 13.

Committee Members:

William Fitzpatrick, Chair

Evelyn Gland, Vice-Chair

Pam Tessnear

Yannis Stivachtis

Members Present:

Bill Fitzpatrick

Pam Tessnear

Yannis Stivachtis

Members Absent:

Evelyn Gland

Others Present:

Dale Cash, Camelot of VA

Tim Lewellyn, Camelot of VA

Lynn Bagnall, Camelot of VA

Ivan Velickovic, Lakeview
Blue Ridge

Casey Henshaw, Family
Preservation Services

Harvey Barker, NRVCS

Lucy McCandlish, NRVCS

James Gann, NRVCS

Mike Wade, NRVCS

Ytje Haim, NRVCS

Paula Olinger, NRVCS

Megan Dean, NRVCS

Nan Neese, Regional
Advocate, DMHMRSAS



Executive Committee (continued):

ess for their dedication, professionalism and efficiency. She indicated that the Committee had completed its duties and was prepared to make a recommendation to the Board. Mr. Bill Greenberg, who also served on the Committee, thanked Ms. Collins for her work as the Committee Chair.

Board Member Comments:

Mr. John Muffo requested that the Board avoid conducting future meetings on nights other than Thursdays.

Closed Session: Personnel Matter

- Mr. Jerry Boothe moved that the NRVCS Board convene into a closed meeting in accordance with §2.2.3711.A(4) of the Code of VA to protect the privacy of individuals in personnel matters not related to public business. Ms. Joan Knode seconded the motion and it was approved by each member.
- Mr. Bob Nicholson motioned that the NRVCS Board reconvene into public session. Ms. Joan Knode seconded the motion and each member approved reconvening into public session.
- Mr. Bob Nicholson made the motion that each member certify that to the best of their knowledge only those matters lawfully exempted from public business and identified in the motion were heard, discussed and considered by the NRVCS Board. Ms. Becky Hubble seconded the motion and each member so certified.

Following closed session, Mr. Jerry Boothe motioned that the Board waive the Nepotism Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Muffo and approved by each member. The Nepotism Policy will be reviewed at a later meeting.

Ms. Vicky Collins moved that the Board authorize the Chair of the Search Committee to offer the position and negotiate the contract for the position of Executive Director to Dr. Harvey Barker, and upon completion of those negotiations, an effective date will be set, and the Chairman of the Board is authorized to sign the contract, and upon the effective date, the positions of Co-Director will be dissolved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Knode and each member approved the motion.

Mr. Jerry Boothe applauded Ms. Deborah Whitten-Williams for her work in the position of Co-Director.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Jerry Boothe motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bob Nicholson seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.