

LHRC Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2009

NEW RIVER VALLEY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Bill Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and led introductions.

Minutes: There being no discussion regarding the minutes from the January 22, 2009 meeting, Dr. Yannis Stivachtis motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Pam Tessnear seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Regional Advocate's Report: Nan was pleased to announce that there were three applicants for the committee at the meeting. Also as a result of the budget difficulties, the Office of Human Rights for this region will be working with the providers in the Piedmont region as well. This is an addition of three new counties and the City of Martinsville. Other changes include that the NRV providers will be working with two different Licensing Specialists. Nan discussed with the Committee a revised reporting tool and drafted guidance on requesting affiliation. Finally she shared with the Committee and affiliates that she and her team have developed their preliminary schedule for unannounced visits.

Closed Session: Pam Tessnear motioned that the committee convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 A(1) to discuss the appointment of specific individuals to New River Valley Local Human Rights Committee. Dr. Yannis Stivachtis seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Following a period of discussion, Tessnear made a motion that the board reconvene into public session. Dr. Stivachtis seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by roll call. Upon reconvening in open session, the members individually certified that only such public business matters identified in the motion for closed session were heard, discussed, and considered.

Requests for Affiliation: John Weatherspoon with Intercept Youth Services reported back to the committee at their request that the New River Valley location has not been added to the current company license for Intensive In-home and Mental Health Supports. In lieu of this, the committee requested that John report back when license has been granted. Nan reported that she has asked the Human Rights Advocate in Richmond to take a look at the human rights policy because she does not believe they are consistent with current regulations.

Dana Schultz with NRVCS requested the committee extend the current affiliation to two additional HART homes. Dr. Stivachtis moved that the current affiliation be extended to the Patricia Jayne Johnson home and Adam Edwards home. Debbie Perez-Lopez seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Keri Basham with Wall Residences requested the committee extend the current affiliation to the Angela White service. Pam Tessnear motioned that the committee extend affiliation to the Angela White service. Dr. Stivachtis seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The committee reviewed the letter from Family Preservation Services requesting extension of affiliation for Therapeutic Day Treatment at Max Meadows Elementary School. Perez-Lopez motioned that the committee extend affiliation to this services. Dr. Stivachtis seconded, and

Committee Members

William Fitzpatrick, Chair

Pam Tessnear

Yannis Stivachtis

Debbie Perez-Lopez

Chase Niedermayer

Members Present:

William Fitzpatrick—Chair

Pam Tessnear

Yannis Stivachtis

Debbie Perez-Lopez

Chase Niedermayer

Members Absent:

Others Present:

John Weatherspoon - Intercept Youth Services

Teresa Poole—Lakeview

Blue Ridge

Keri Basham— Wall Residences

Melissa Wall—Wall Residences

Cheryl Ann McGovern— Wall Residences

Natalie Irvine—Braley & Thompson

Nan Neese—DMHMRSAS

Kerri Beasley—Secretary

Rhonda Quesenberry— committee applicant

Beth Deskins—committee applicant

Lori Mick—committee applicant

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the motion was unanimously approved.

Human Rights Activity Reports: Teresa Poole with Lakeview Blue Ridge Center presented the center's annual report to the committee. The committee had several questions about discrepancies throughout the report. The Committee asked that Teresa review these and report again at the next meeting.

Closed Session: Pam Tessnear motioned that the committee convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business. Dr. Stivachtis seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Following a period of discussion, Tessnear made a motion that the board reconvene into public session. Dr. Stivachtis seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by roll call. Upon reconvening in open session, the members individually certified that only such public business matters identified in the motion for closed session were heard, discussed, and considered

Back in open session, Debbie Perez-Lopez motioned that the committee accept the report from Wall Residences and continue approval with a review in one year. Dr. Stivachtis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. An e-mail confirmation will be distributed to members and affiliates closer to the date of the meeting.