

LHRC Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2013

NEW RIVER VALLEY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions:

Chairman Yannis Stivachtis called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. He welcomed everyone and led introductions.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Agenda:

Beth Deskins moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the NRVCS Digital Recording Policy. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Minutes:

Committee members received in their packets the minutes from the November 8th meeting. Lori Mick moved to approve the minutes. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Regional Advocate's Report:

Nan Neese, Regional Human Rights Advocate, gave her report. Neese welcomed attendees and offered best wishes for the new year. Neese reminded affiliates Annual Reports should include cover letters describing affiliate services. Neese reported on the rollout for CHRIS; the automated reporting system. The CHRIS system is ready and Neese briefly discussed the history of the system and the relationship between the DOJ settlement and date of implementation. Rollout will occur in a 3 phase process and the first training was held yesterday. Phase 1 will include state facilities, csbs, and larger organizations that serve the ID population. The 'Go Live' date is February 3rd. Neese noted affiliates will be notified regarding phases 2 and 3 as applicable for each affiliate. The goal for full implementation is early Spring. Neese noted the system will enable affiliates to capture and submit reporting of human rights complaints, allegations of abuse and neglect, and incident reporting for injuries and deaths. System utilization will significantly reduce paper and provide statistical reporting. Existing paper forms were designed to aid affiliates in recognizing screens and data input methods used in the CHRIS system. Neese noted one area that may be problematic is proper identification of complaint categories and Neese offered to consult with affiliates as necessary. There are plans for in-service trainings using actual examples from affiliates.

Neese reported the Human Rights regulations were re-promulgated last November and there is a copy available on the Department website. Neese has a version of the new regs in Word format and will forward that document to affiliates. One right was added which resulted in one additional provider responsibility. The name of the Department also changed. The new right is related to an individual's ability to name someone to have information regarding the individual's transfer. Neese noted she will re-issue an email with current forms and the Bill of Rights.

Neese discussed the March meeting date for the NRV LHRC. Later in the meeting, the committee agreed to move the March meeting to March 21, 2013 at 12:00 noon at NRVCS.

In response to a question from Chairman Stivachtis, Neese invited Lucy McCandlish and Susan Baker to discuss the state budget. There is some new crisis funding for adults and children, but most new funding is dedicated to services for the ID population. There were no budget cuts. Neese invited attendees to attend a viewing of "Voices of Hope and Recovery" after the regular meeting.

Committee Members

Yannis Stivachtis
Beth Deskins
Vickie Linkous
Lori Mick
Chase Niedermayer
Rhonda Quesenberry

Members Present:

Yannis Stivachtis, Chair
Beth Deskins
Lori Mick
Chase Niedermayer
Rhonda Quesenberry

Members Absent:

Jeanetta Beamer
Vickie Linkous

Others Present:

Elisha Nichols
Amanda Craig
Keri Basham
Wall Residences Inc.

Stuart Richardson
Intercept Youth

Stephanie Bakely
Strengthening our System

Susan Baker
Melissa Jackson
Lucy McCandlish
Heather Rupe
Chris Taylor
J. Lynne Winebarger
NRVCS

Diane McCarty
Family Preservation Services

Ivan Velickovic
Lisa Bond
NeuroRestorative

Nan Neese
DBHDS

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Annual Human Rights Activity Reports:

None.

Quarterly Human Rights Activity Reports:

None.

Requests for Affiliation:

Chris Taylor of NRVCS requested an extension of their affiliation to include new locations for therapeutic day treatment at Prices Fork Elementary School, Auburn Middle School, Dalton Intermediate School, and Fresh Start. Taylor described the Fresh Start program in detail, including a typical day for individuals served. After a few questions from committee members, Chase Niedermayer moved to extend the affiliation as requested. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Melissa Jackson of NRVCS offered notice of a change of location of the Agnes sponsored home. Lori Mick moved to discontinue affiliation at the Custis Street location and extend affiliation to the Hidden Valley Road location. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Keri Basham of Wall Residences requested extension of their affiliation to include two new locations at the Lawson Home and Hawks Home. Beth Deskins moved to extend the affiliation as requested. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Notice to Conclude Affiliations:

None.

Policy and Procedure Review:

Lucy McCandlish of NRVCS presented the agency's digital recording policy. McCandlish noted the policy covers instances of video recordings that will be added to the client's electronic medical record. McCandlish noted faces and audio can be digitally altered to protect identities as necessary and that stipulation can be added to the policy wording. McCandlish noted a video is the same as any other medical record, and will be handled as such, being subject to the same rules and regulations. Nan Neese remarked she noted no objection. Beth Deskins moved to accept the policy with one change related to altering videos to protect identities as mentioned above. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Closed Session:

Beth Deskins moved to convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711 A(1) to discuss the appointment of specific individuals to the New River Valley Local Human Rights Committee. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

After a period of discussion, Beth Deskins moved to reconvene into public session. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Each member then certified that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were heard, discussed, or considered.

The chairperson requested Nan Neese seek removal of the absent committee member by the State Human Rights Committee.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Rhonda Quesenberry moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 p.m. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. An e-mail confirmation will be distributed to members and affiliates closer to the date of the meeting.