Western State Hospital Staunton, Virginia

Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes Jeffreys Building, Room 95 at 12:30 p.m. March 27, 2006

Present: Karen Cochran, Ski Washington, Marge Brimmer, Debbie Harris, Flora Haas, Lee Godfrey, Stephen Ryan Committee Members; Chuck Collins, Regional Advocate; Randy Urgo, Advocate; Susan Frushour, Director's Liaison; Rebecca Currin, VOPA Absent: Mark Seymour, CCCA Advocate

Karen Cochran, Chair, called the meeting of the Local Human Rights Committee to order on March 27, 2006. Minutes of the February 27, 2005 meeting were approved. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Drs. Stephen Nichols and Marc Hastings gave a progress report as requested by the Committee in December on an individual on their ward, stating her behavior has improved greatly and she is working toward discharge in a logical manner. They reported staff has had no complaints or incidents for this individual in a while and individuals on that ward are interacting with her.

Randy Urgo reviewed the Advocate's the emerging issues regarding consent and LAR issues. Mr. Urgo stated the LHRC Seminar will be held probably in September 2006 and he will bring a questionnaire to the members to request what topics they want addressed at the seminar. Mr. Urgo stated he would email a copy to members of a questionnaire the ESH-LHRC is using to look into the ECT process regarding the adequacy of consent. He requested members return the questionnaires to him at the next meeting or mail back to him. Mr. Urgo reported the new Regs have been signed by the Governor's Office and there will be a 60-day comment period.

Rebecca Currin introduced Brenda Coleman, Advocate, who also works for VOPA and they reported on VOPA concerns (discharge protocols, discharge planning and 90-day reviews).

The following membership issues were discussed--losing three members within the next several months; increasing the size of the Committee; and reviewing the list of names submitted as possible candidates. Members decided to broaden their scope for candidates to balance the Committee.

Ms. Frushour reviewed the Barriers to Discharge Report and will report back on several individuals. The next meeting will be held on April 24, 2006.

APPROVED:

Margaret Bowman Secretary, LHRC

Karen Cochran Chair, LHRC