

**Southeastern Regional
Local Human Rights Committee**
January 20th, 2021 at 9:00 am
Zoom

Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rick Dinsmore, Chair
Matthew Albright, Vice Chair
Mark Douglass, Alternate
Marilyn Nendza, Member
Carolyn Scott, Member
Sandy Montez-Gerhardt, Member
Dick Roberts, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Reginald Daye – Regional Manager, DBHDS
April DeLandro- Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS
Latoya Wilborne- Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS
Michael Gause- Human Rights Advocate, DBHDS

OTHERS PRESENT

Shantel Taylor- James Barry Robinson Institute, LHRC Liaison
Kerry Kruk – Virginia Beach Community Services Board
Melanie Joyner – Holiday House of Portsmouth

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rick Dinsmore, Chairman, called meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Those in attendance made introductions to include their name and title.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The January 20th, 2021 agenda was motioned to be accepted by Ms. Nendza, seconded by Ms. Montez-Gerhardt, and unanimously approved by the committee members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the October 21st, 2020 minutes was motioned to be accepted by Ms. Nendza, seconded by Ms. Montez-Gerhardt, and unanimously approved by the committee members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

REGIONAL ADVOCATE ANNOUNCEMENT/ ADVOCATE REPORT:

Mr. Reginald Daye made the following advocate announcements:

- The next meeting will be held remotely on Zoom due to COVID-19.
- Reminder that April DeLandro is now the assigned OHR Advocate who will provide technical support to this committee.
- Described changes in the structure within OHR which included the division between Community Advocates and Facility Advocates. Explained that Lakel Gurley-Upshaw is a Region 5 OHR Advocate who reports to Brandon Rotenberry and he has been promoted as of December 2020 as the Facilities Manager.
- The continuance of the transition of the training centers in which Dick Roberts shared his perspective and experience of working in training centers.
- Deborah Lochart's official retirement has occurred and Taneika Goldman is now the State Human Rights Director.
- FOIA training will be scheduled to occur sometime after July 2021.
- Reappointments were discussed and for members whose 2nd terms are up on 06/30 this year were encouraged to consider applying for other committees; Reginald Daye expressed his appreciation for all members of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Variance Update

- Holiday House of Portsmouth

Ms. Melanie Joyner presented the quarterly variance update:

- ICF children's facility for ages 5-21
- Visitation Variance
- Active upon Admission
- Visits occur through Zoom due to pandemic, but some visits occur outside when the facility has no active COVID-19 cases
- No complaints or violations for the 1st quarter
- No changes made to the variance and was approved on 09/10/2020

- James Barry Robinson Center

Ms. Shantel Taylor presented the quarterly variance update:

- Telephone and visitation restrictions
- Program provides for children starting at age 6.
- At the time of admission, an approved list of contacts is created with the input from the client, clinician and the AR or legal guardian.
- 0 Complaints of the variance.
- No changes made to the variance and was approved on 09/10/2020

- Virginia Beach Community Services Board-
Ms. Kerry Kruk presented an overview of its State Human Rights Committee (SHRC) approved variance to the LHRC members.
 - The variance addresses telephone use and visitation.
 - 9 instances of contraband that were provided to staff or discovered during intake for the quarter.
 - 0 instances of contraband obtained from an outside contact on the premises or carried in by an outside visitor.
 - 0 complaint about the variance.
 - Variance is for the Crisis Stabilization Program (The Pathways Center)
 - No changes made to this variance and was approved on 9/30/2020

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Albright and seconded by Ms. Nendza at 9:31 a.m. for the Southeastern Regional LHRC to go into closed session pursuant to VA code 2.2-3711 (A), for the purpose of reviewing confidential information, lawfully exempted from the statutory open session requirements involving a Virginia Beach Community Services Board Service Recipient's Behavior Support Plan.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The committee reconvened in open session at 9:50 a.m. by unanimous vote on a motion by Mr. Albright and seconded by Ms. Nendza. Each member certified that, to the best of each of their knowledge, only private business matters, lawfully exempted from the statutory open session requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened, was discussed in the closed session, namely for the purposes of reviewing the Virginia Beach Community Services Board Service Recipient's Behavior Support Plan.

Recommendation: Motion made by Mr. Albright, seconded by Ms. Nendza and unanimously approved by the committee members as follows:

To approve the Behavior Support Plan as presented with a 90-day update to the Southeastern Regional Local Human Rights Committee.

TRAINING

None

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 21st, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Location-Zoom

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion made to ADJOURN the meeting by Mr. Albright, seconded by Ms. Scott at 9:57 a.m. with the unanimous approval of the committee members.