

CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Tucker Wellness and Recovery  
500 Hioaks Rd, Suite A  
Richmond, VA 23225  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2019 6:30 p.m.  
Final Minutes

LIST MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lauren Auster-Gussman  
Jennifer Sistrunk  
Danielle Hunt  
Gina Koke – sub-in member

LIST MEMBERS ABSENT:

Hannibal Tuck

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Sistrunk called meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- No additional public comment. Public comment from previous meeting noted.

AGENDA ITEMS

- (Closed Session)

CLOSED (EXECUTIVE) SESSION - Upon a motion made by Lauren Auster-Gussman, the committee entered closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711, a.15 and §2.2-37.05.5 for the purpose of discussion of medical record / treatment plans. Motion Second by Danielle Hunt, unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

- CSH Variance renewal

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – Upon reconvening in open session, all members of the Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each ones' knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.

- CSH Variance renewal Votes commenced, outcome below:

- Variance 1. CSH Policy RTS-12c Searches and examinations of Patients and Property and CSH Policy RTS-26D Contraband Defined.
  - o Motion to Approve this variance made by Gina Koke
  - o Second made by Lauren Auster-Gussman
  - o Majority three to one to approve, one to deny.
  - o Danielle Hunt voted to deny this variance specifically with regard to the cavity search because it is very rare and goes against human dignity.
- Variance 2. CSH's maximum security practice of opening, but not reading, mail in front of civil patients in secure forensic programs. CSH is also adding during this cycle a restriction on patients within the maximum security unit communicating with each other by telephone or mail
  - o Motion to approve made by Gina Koke
  - o Second Jennifer Sistrunk
  - o 2 for and 2 against
  - o Motion to approve with modifications made by Lauren Auster-Gussman
  - o Second Gina Koke
  - o 3 for 1 against, motion to approve with modification passed
    - Modifications for consideration by CSH and SHRC:
      - Consider an option where phone or mail communication with another patient within the maximum security unit can be requested and if approved, order to be placed by physician for this and if denied, the denial can be filed as a complaint and heard by the LHRC.
      - Consider other environmental modifications to improve safety in the maximum security units and consider a committee for safety.
- Variance 3. CSH's maximum security practice of prohibiting civil patients from retaining any form of money on their person in secure forensic programs.
  - o Motion to approve the above variance made by Gina Koke
  - o Second – Lauren Auster-Gussman
  - o Unanimously approved by committee members.
- Variance 4. CSH's maximum security practice of conducting routine "pat downs" of fully clothes civil patients and searches of patients' bedroom areas in secure forensic programs.
  - o Motion to approve the above variance made by Gina Koke
  - o Second – Lauren Auster-Gussman
  - o Unanimously approved by committee members.
- Variance 5. CSH's maximum security complaint resolution process which allows for individuals not satisfied with the CSH Director's response, to appeal to the CSH Maximum Security Appeals Committee.
  - o Motion to approve with modification made by Gina Koke
  - o Second – Danielle Hunt
  - o Unanimously approved by committee members.
    - Modification for consideration by CSH and SHRC
      - Ensure there is a consumer on the CSH Maximum Security Appeals committee.

#### LHRC BUSINESS

- Election of Officers to be held during the July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting.

#### ADVOCATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Follow up to Spit mask report presented by advocate.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING – JULY 18, 2019 at 6:00pm Central State Hospital.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Motion made to ADJOURN by Jennifer Sistrunk, second by Gina Koke, unanimously approved by committee members in attendance.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.

These Minutes were transcribed by Lauren Auster-Gussman, Committee Member